

Hafa Adai!

Rebate program will help residents replace old appliances. **PAGE 2**
\$497K grant aims to help NMI create unemployment insurance. **PAGE 5**

75¢

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5 FAMILIES NOW HOMELESS

Fire razes Chalan Laulau homes

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
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REPORTER

A structure fire engulfed several apartment homes in Chalan Laulau yesterday, leaving five families without a place to live.

Judge Manglona's term expires this July

» **Resolution recommends Manglona's re-nomination for another term**

AT A GLANCE

As of 7pm, April 15, 2021

VACCINATIONS IN THE CNMI

Pfizer/BioNTech	
Initiated:	17,573
Fully Vaccinated:	13,063
Moderna	
Initiated:	2,501
Fully Vaccinated:	1,946
Janssen	
Fully vaccinated:	49

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	7,851	5	7,856
Recovered	7,678	0	7,678
Active	37	5	42
Deaths	136	0	136
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested	146,807		

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	161	0	161
Traced via Travel Screening	125	0	125
Traced via Community Screening	36	0	36
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested	26,131*		
Days since last community transmission	30		

*Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted not to report active and recovered cases.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Ramona V. Manglona's 10-year term as chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the NMI will expire on July 28, prompting the introduction of a House resolution that urges Manglona's re-nomination for another term.



Manglona

Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) introduced Wednesday House Resolution 22-8

See **JUDGE** on Page 4

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:

- Red: Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

According to a news release from the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Ser-

vices yesterday, the fire, which started in one of the units of an
See **FIRE** on Page 4



TINIAN ROAD PROJECT

Equipment Operator 3rd Class Dillon Bruner, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 4, operates a loader to collect excess debris from a surface miner during a road-clearing on this Marpo Heights road. The hard coral beneath the Marpo Heights roads requires Seabees to collaborate with local experts to excavate the road.

PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS WENHAN FAN



Babauta

House JGO reopens probe into Torres' expenses

» **Bautista says Babauta, other Democrats playing politics again**

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations of the CNMI House of the Representatives has reopened a probe into the expenditures

of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and his wife, specifically expenses relating to his travels.

Toward this end, the committee has asked the Marianas Visitors Authority for copies of documents relating to Torres.

See **HOUSE** on Page 4

Together, we can transform the CNMI one stakeholder at a time

TOGETHER, WE CAN

By MIKE SABLAN

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Mike Sablan is vice president of Triple J Enterprises, Inc., a certified public accountant, and chairperson of the Domestic Policy and Recovery Committee of the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers. As an advisory council for Gov. Ralph Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold Palacios, the GCEA's mission is to improve the quality of life in the CNMI for all residents.

“Together, We Can.” This mantra reminds us how we can turn things around for our islands and our people with or without the COVID-19 pandemic.

Groups that are on board with the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers' Public Private Partnership campaign are proof of how collaborative efforts can help bring the positive changes we all want for the CNMI.

We have the E-Land Group teaming up with Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School students, parents, and teachers to clean up Paupau Beach and donating supplies to the Division of Parks and Recreation to reopen the restroom at the site. Then there are the Saipan Lions Club's seven groups with more than 1,000 members

See **TOGETHER** on Page 4



INSIDE



BUSINESS

Bernard Madoff, the architect of an epic securities swindle, died behind bars. He was 82.

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OFF THE WALL

Nurse Camille Coelho just wanted to take a stroll. Instead, she got stuck in the mud.

PAGE 18



LIFE & STYLE

Ralph Lauren unveils the uniforms to be worn by Team USA at the Tokyo Olympics.

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GOT A NEWS TIP?

TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

Local

Rebate program will help residents replace old appliances

The CNMI Energy Division Office announced yesterday the launch of a rebate program that would allow CNMI residents to replace old, inefficient appliances with qualified energy-efficient Energy Star-rated products for a limited time or until funds run out, whichever comes first.

Funds are limited and rebate vouchers are available on a first-come, first-served basis, for Saipan, Tinian and Rota residents.

Appliances must replace existing models. Residents with newly constructed or renovat-

ed homes are eligible to apply for new purchases of qualified Energy-Efficient or Energy Star-rated appliances. Residents impacted by the devastations of Typhoon Mangkhut and Super Typhoon Yutu are eligible, provided they have not already received similar assistance from local, federal or private entities. Additional requirements or conditions may apply.

Rebate applications will be available for distribution to the public beginning April 20, 2021, at the CNMI Energy Division Office at House

1337, Ascencion Dr., Capital Hill, Saipan.

For Tinian and Rota residents, applications will be made available at the following designated dates, times and locations:

TINIAN:

■ May 7, 2021, 9am – 4pm,

Tinian Youth Center

■ May 8, 2021, 9am – 4pm,
Tinian Youth Center

ROTA

■ May 12, 2021, 1pm – 4pm, Rota Youth Center

■ May 13-14, 2021, 9am – 4pm, Rota Youth Center

Due to the continuing threat of COVID-19, the public is required to observe and comply with all health and safety protocols. Masks are required at all times during the program services hours of operations.

The program is called the CNMI Energizing Insular

Communities Energy Efficient, Energy Star Appliance Rebate Program. Funding is provided by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs. For additional program information or questions, contact the Division of Energy Office at 664-4480/1. **(PR)**



MURAL ON A BUNKER

Members of the Saipan Marianas Lions Club and Saipan Marianas Alpha Leo Club pose for a group photo before a World War II Japanese bunker located near the Beach Road pathway across JP Center in Garapan. For three successive Saturdays, the clubs' members, mostly students, completed painting a mural on the bunker with a theme: Free the Sea from Debris.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

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'Oral cancer is a huge burden for NMI's small population'

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

An average of three cases of oral cancer come up every month in the CNMI, making it a huge burden for the CNMI's small population, according to a physician at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

Speaking in a radio news program yesterday, CHCC's Dr. William Moss cited a CHCC survey that shows that there's a higher report in teens who chew betel nut than those who are middle aged adults. Chewing betel nut is believed to reduce stress and suppress hunger.

Moss said 40% of teen respondents, including those who are 20 to 30 years old, have reported that they have chewed betel nut versus 20% to 30% of middle-aged adults—typically 40 to 60 years old—who have also reported chewing betel nut.

"You have to take that with a grain of salt because people don't always report exactly what they're doing, but the current landscape suggests that whatever the oral cancer burden is now...chewing rates are going up, and people are starting at young ages, and the frequency of that happening is going up," said Moss.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, it has been reported that oral cancer is the third leading type of cancer within the CNMI. The history of oral cases traces back to those who have chewed when they were younger or are still chewing betel nut. Betel nut is areca nut commonly mixed with lime stone powder and cigarettes.

Moss said that chewing is more common among Asian Pacific Islanders and not so much among those who have immigrated here. He said this is a "huge burden on a small

population" versus when he did his residency in San Francisco, California, where doctors saw one case of oral cancer every few months.

According to Moss, when oral cancer is detected early,

there's a survival rate of 90 to 95% but the later stages—stage 2, 3, 4—is a "different ballgame."

"It's really unfortunate that we have people [coming] in so late [to be checked], because we're here, there's so many places people could go to,

various doctors...dental clinics offer screenings. So if you notice something, any lump or a bump of any size, just have someone lay eyes on it, and you can really do yourself a huge favor," said Moss.

Unfortunately, even when oral cancer is detected early,

it's recommended that it gets treated as the cancer will always be there and it will grow. "Once you have a cancer it's there and cancers grow, they don't just go away on their own, unfortunately. So treatment of some kind, would be the only way to get rid of it," said Moss.

Man sentenced to a year for assault

A man who stabbed another man's foot with a knife in a fit of jealousy pleaded guilty to one count of assault and battery and was sentenced to one year in prison.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo imposed a one-year sentence on Glaizer Tamayo Ticsay, all suspended except for five days of time served. In exchange for Ticsay's guilty plea, the other charges against him were dismissed without prejudice, including assault with a dangerous weapon, disturbing the peace, and burglary.

In addition, Govendo sentenced Ticsay to two years of supervised probation and ordered him to pay a \$120 probation fee for the duration of his probation, a \$400 fine, and all other court costs and fees.

The court also ordered Ticsay to have no contact with the victim and witnesses in the case. Failure to comply would result in contempt of court.

According to court documents, the Department of Public Safety responded to an assault with a dangerous weapon report in Chalan Kanoa on Sept. 9, 2020.

The victim told police that

he was in his room with his two friends, one of them Ticsay's girlfriend, on Sept. 9, 2020, at around 10:26pm, when the defendant barged in and shouted profanities at him. The victim later told police that Ticsay was jealous of his friendship with his girlfriend.

Ticsay reportedly tried to punch the victim but the victim managed to block it before wrapping his arms around Ticsay's head and neck. The defendant then pushed the victim away and pulled out a "knife" from his pocket and attempted to stab the victim. The victim told police that he covered his body and Ticsay hit the victim's foot instead.

The victim's other friend who was in the room at the time of the incident intervened and grabbed Ticsay from behind and held him back from attacking the victim again. The friend then yelled for help, prompting two neighbors to enter the room to stop the fight.

After the fight, the victim said he heard Ticsay say in Tagalog that he would be back. He added that he is scared for his life if Ticsay is released because he had received verbal threats from Ticsay.

(Kimberly B. Esmores)

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Atalig ordered to provide copy of financial records

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
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REPORTER

The U.S. District Court for the NMI has ordered Rota Mayor Eifram Atalig to file a declaration about his current financial status to show cause as to why he should not be required to reimburse the Criminal Justice Act Fund for legal services.

In a show-cause order issued by U.S. District Court for the NMI Magistrate Judge Heather Kennedy, Atalig was ordered to show cause why he should not be required to reimburse the Criminal Justice Act fund for all or part of his legal fees no later than May 17.

Kennedy stated in her order that Atalig must file a declaration about his current financial status, which should include copies of his 2020 and 2021 tax returns. The documents will be sealed to ensure that Atalig's personal financial information is not publicly released.

In addition, Kennedy also ordered David Banes, Atalig's lawyer, to submit by May 17 his final voucher with the accounting of his time and expenses for representing the mayor. According to the court documents, Banes began submitting in early December 2020 his CJA vouchers requesting payments for legal fees and

expenses for representing Atalig.

Likewise, Kennedy ordered the U.S. government to file a response

no later than May 31 with any information it possesses about Atalig's financial condition, about any changes



LIVE-FIRE EXERCISE

U.S. Navy Gunner's Mate 2nd Class Sheila Roberts, right, from Santa Fe, N.M., and Gunner's Mate 3rd Class Artkeun Ignacio, from Saipan, CNMI, shoot an M2HB machine gun during a live-fire exercise on the fantail of the aircraft carrier USS *Theodore Roosevelt* last April 13, 2021. The Theodore Roosevelt Carrier Strike Group is on a scheduled deployment to the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations. As the U.S. Navy's largest forward-deployed fleet, 7th Fleet routinely operates and interacts with 35 maritime nations while conducting missions to preserve and protect a free and open Indo-Pacific region.

U.S. NAVY/MCS SEAMAN EDUARDO A. TORRES

FIRE

From Page 1

eight-unit staffing container apartment owned by Conwood Construction Corp., has been ruled an "accidental fire." The ignition source was identified as a "faulty electrical" on an air conditioning unit in apartment unit 2, at a southern part of the apartment.

Fortunately, no injuries were reported. A total of five families were referred to the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter for further assistance with their living situation.

The DFEMS press statement stated that a male individual called 911 at approximately 9:12am yesterday, re-

porting a structure fire near Conwood in Chalan Lau Lau.

DFEMS' Engine 5, Rescue 1, and Medic 1 units responded to the location at around 9:13am. Engine 5 arrived on scene first and confirmed it to be a structure fire.

DFEMS company commander Lt. Clinton Ngriraked declared the fire under control at around 9:40am and the scene was secured by 10:08am.

DFEMS Division of Arson Investigation took over the scene, led by Firefighter III Benjamin Manglona, who stated that units 1,2,3, and 4 of the apartment complex sustained the most damage from the fire while apartment units 5, 6, 7, and 8 sustained smoke and soot damage. The origin of the fire was apparent on

apartment unit 2; the southern side of the structure.

Back in March, the CNMI saw a structure fire behind the Pugua Store in Gualo Rai. At the scene, DFEMS personnel confirmed the fire was a structure fire at U Luck Poker. All occupants had evacuated from U Luck Poker and no individuals were injured and no treatment was provided at the scene for medical complaints related to the fire.

Preliminary scene investigation by the Division of Arson Investigation revealed the point of origin was located outside on the eastern side of the building. The fire had started from the generator and spread into the storage room of the establishment.

TOGETHER

From Page 1

who are doing monthly cleanups. The Saipan Mayor's Office staff is also busy supporting the maintenance of the Garapan medians as well as the Oleai Sports Complex grounds.

House members of the 22nd CNMI Legislature, both from the minority and majority blocs, are on board too. Rep. Sheila Babauta worked with the Socho Basketball Club for the transformation of the As Matuis basketball court and will move to the Tanapag facility with the Talaabwogh Stars later this month. Rep. Leila Staffler, Rep. Richard Lizama, and their volunteers are joining forces to work on three basketball courts in Kagman, while Rep. Denita Yangetmai and her volunteers will take care of the Civic Center Beach Park pavilions.

The minority members—minority leader Rep. Ivan Blanco, Rep. Angel Demapan, Rep. Lee Pan Guerrero, Vice Speaker BJ Attao, Rep. John

Paul Sablan, Rep. Joseph Flores, Rep. Joel Camacho, Rep. Patrick San Nicolas, Rep. Roy Ada, and Rep. Ralph Yumul—have also been working on new projects, including village basketball courts and many public facilities.

Next month, GCEA Council members will be hosting PPP projects for the basketball courts on Rota, while Tinian will have its turn in June. We welcome volunteers to join us for these projects. More information will be posted on our Facebook page prior to the events.

On Saipan, the Marianas High School Class of 1987 will have a reunion of sorts over water blasters and paint rollers. The alumni will meet at the MHS grounds on April 17 to work on the school's outdoor basketball court.

Groups stepping forward to adopt sites embody the spirit of working together and the personal investment that the PPP initiative is promoting across the islands. Everyone has a stake in the transformation of our is-

lands' sites and community facilities, and all are welcome to join the cause.

Rep. Sheila Babauta put it best when she said, "We all belong to this community, and I highly encourage you to consider adopting a space you use or visit often" after the adoption of the As Matuis basketball court.

Last week, the Korean Community of Saipan completed a cleanup at Micro Beach and its new officers have smoothly taken over the project from their predecessors. The Chinese Association of Saipan and Kanoa Resort went back to the Susupe Beach Park and removed two truckloads of broken concrete benches from the site.

The GCEA is grateful for the work its PPP partners have successfully completed since last June and looks forward to many more projects in the pipeline. We are confidently on track to transform our beautiful islands, provide our residents with better quality services and facilities, and give our visitors a welcoming sight when tourism reopens. TOGETHER, WE CAN.

in Atalig's financial status since the inception of his case, or any other reason why Atalig should be required to reimburse the CJA fund for the representation of his defense.

Kennedy scheduled a hearing on the matter for June 2 at 9am.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, the corruption case of Atalig and common-law wife, Evelyn Atalig, that dragged on for two years came to an end on Aug. 26, 2020

with federal court jurors unanimously deeming the Ataligs innocent on all counts.

The jury acquitted the Ataligs on one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud, wire fraud, and two counts of false statement.

The Ataligs were indicted for conspiracy to commit wire fraud, wire fraud, and false statement back in 2018 with the trial ending in August 2020.

JUDGE

From Page 1

that encourages Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres and CNMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) to submit to President Joseph Biden their recommendation for the re-nomination of Manglona to serve another term as chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the NMI and to recognize her for her distinguished career.

In the resolution that is supported by several lawmakers, Demapan said the Legislature is proud to express its support for Manglona's re-nomination.

The lawmaker said Manglona's continued dedication and commitment in upholding the U.S. Constitution and the highest standards of legal competence and ethical conduct to the rule of law has made her eminently qualified to earn the re-nomination.

Demapan said Manglona embodies "all the characteristics of a true dignitary, such as intelligence, hu-

mility, and commitment, with a vision that made it possible for her to make an immeasurable difference in the lives of our communities in the CNMI."

Manglona became the first person from the CNMI to be appointed to a federal judge court in 2011.

Then-governor Benigno R. Fitial recommended Manglona to then-President Barack Obama for nomination as Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the NMI. In January 2011, Obama nominated Manglona. The U.S. Senate confirmed her on July 27, 2011. She assumed office on July 30, 2011.

Prior to her appointment, Manglona was a Superior Court associate judge. In 2002 she became the CNMI attorney general.

In August 2020, Manglona was one of 19 women from the U.S. territories, including *West Side Story* star Rita Moreno from Puerto Rico, who were recognized by the USA Today Network as its "Women of the Century" for making significant contributions to their communities.

HOUSE

From Page 1

res' MVA-funded travels.

JGO committee chair Rep. Celina R. Babauta (D-Saipan) also asked the Office of Personnel Management to provide "unredacted" documents relating to new hires, promotions, and amendments to contracts of department heads.

"Please have the copies available for pick up no later than Tuesday, April 20, 2021," said Babauta in her separate emails sent last Tuesday to the MVA and OPM officials. *Saipan Tribune* obtained a copy of the emails yesterday.

Babauta told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that there will be more requests going out to different government agencies.

Press secretary Kevin Bautista said the administration welcomes all legitimate inquiries but the timeline of this inquiry is questionable and described the probe as "another blatant political attempt by the Democrats and their Guam news outlet to smear Torres and this administration."

Bautista said a bipartisan special committee was already formed last year and transferred oversight to the Office of the Public Auditor, which is the appropriate agency to review and investigate such matters.

Bautista said the Office of the Governor and the Department of Finance cooperated fully in the past with last year's Special Committee's inquiries and hearings, taking time out to print documents for then-candidate Babauta and their party in response to their Open Government Act requests. He said the findings of the Special

Committee's draft report showed no finding of consequence.

"While there is a lot of good work being done by Gov. Torres, Lt. Gov. [Arnold] Palacios, the House minority, the Senate leadership, the Governor's Council of Economic Advisors, and the COVID-19 Task Force to keep people safe and rebuild the economy, Rep. Babauta and some of the Democrats are choosing to play politics once again," Bautista said.

In her email to MVA managing director Priscilla M. Iakopo and MVA chief accountant Joanne Paraiso, Babauta asked them for unredacted, unaltered, and clear copies of any and all travel documents relating to Torres and first lady Diann Tudela Torres that were funded—either in part or in whole—by MVA from January 2015 until now.

Babauta requested the MVA officials to include all supporting documents such as travel authorizations, boarding passes, travel advances, receipts, trip reports, and reimbursements related to such travels.

She asked MVA officials to also email her a copy of MVA's travel and reimbursement policies.

In a separate email to OPM officials, the lawmaker asked for documents and notifications of personnel actions relating to new hires, promotions, amendments to contracts with or without salary increases related to department chiefs and all other accepted service employment contracts from January 2019 until now.

The email was addressed to OPM director Frances Salas, Classification and Compensation chief Emma Peters, and Employment Development and Staffing chief Joseph Pangelinan.

\$497K grant aims to help NMI create unemployment insurance

The U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs has announced \$497,248 in Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act funding to the CNMI government to enhance and strengthen government programs for reviewing and providing pandemic unemployment benefit funds in the territory.

The CARES Act of 2020, as signed into law, provides mitigation of the economic effects of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic by providing unemployment insurance benefits to displaced CNMI workers. The foundation necessary to implement unemployment benefits to the people of the CNMI requires improvement. The primary goal of this grant is to enhance the CNMI's management of Disaster Pandemic Assistance programs through the following objectives:

- Fund critical technical training needed to fully understand the activities associated with implementing unemployment insurance programs in the CNMI;

- Develop unemployment insurance programs in the CNMI;

- Improve and expand programs to ensure the timeliness of disaster/pandemic assistance; and

- Establish accountability and financial management systems associated with implementing unemployment insurance programs.

"CARES Act funding will be used to help the CNMI government develop the capacity to handle, distribute, and track the Pandemic Unemployment Compensation," said OIA director and acting assistant secretary Nikolao Pula. "We are happy to see they are also leveraging the experience that is available in other territories such as the Virgin Islands to develop their program."

Since the CNMI was hit by two Category 5- typhoons since 2015, the territory has experienced economic setbacks while rebuilding from the typhoons and now has added impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic. The CNMI does not have an established unemployment insurance system and will use the funds for a dedicated UI application processing location, training equipment, and comprehensive training workshops on adherence to unemployment insurance program statutes and regulations. The CNMI Department of Labor has been improvising to retraining staff to handle and expedite these programs and will establish a dedicated program to provide effective management of these funds.

The CNMI is currently working with the U.S. Department of Labor to determine appropriate software and system needs for the implementation of PUA/FPUC and unemployment insurance in the CNMI. (PR)

The CNMI is currently working with the U.S. Department of Labor to determine appropriate software and system needs for the implementation of PUA/FPUC and unemployment insurance in the CNMI. (PR)

OPA to reach out to Rota, Tinian

The staff of the Office of the Public Auditor will be on Rota on April 19, 2021, and on Tinian on April 21, 2021, to notarize and accept filings of financial disclosure statements from government officials.

Filers on Rota may visit the Rota Mayor's Office from 9:30am to 3:00pm on Monday, April 19, 2021. Filers on Tinian may visit the Tinian

Mayor's Office from 8:30am to 3:30pm on Wednesday, April 21, 2021. All filers are reminded to bring with them some form of photo identification, such as a driver's license or a passport. Failure to do so may result in the denial of notary services.

For any inquiries, contact OPA at 322-6481 or 6482. (PR)

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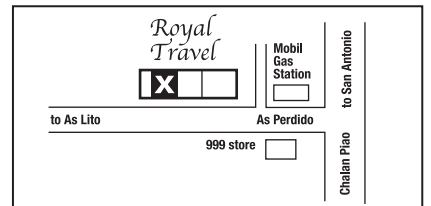


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'Build your Jewelry' event at Marianas Creations

It is "Build Your Jewelry With the Carver Day" at Marianas Creations this Saturday, April 17, from 3pm to 6pm with local artist and carver Martin Camacho Castro Jr.

Customers will be able to

choose from a variety of pendants in local designs such as âchu atupat (slingstone), hima (clam shell), haguit (fish hook), sinâhi, and more. Once a customer chooses their design, Castro will customize it

for a perfect, personalized fit.

It will also be an open mic for anyone wanting to share their talent among our community. Vocal and performance artists Candace "Primitiva" Muña and Eva "Chamorrta"

Cruz will be performing.

In addition, Marianas Creations, which is located next to Everest Kitchen and Bridge Capital LLC on Micro Beach Road, Garapan, will have Happy Hour pricing the entire day of April 17.

Castro has been carving since he was 19 years old. He started learning the skill through a fellow carver from the street market in Garapan. Eventually, he became an apprentice and carved with him and learned how to carve raw shell into beautiful finished products. Castro then learned how to make bracelets, anklets, earrings, necklaces, wood story boards, and other craft skills. "Whenever I design my products I stick to my island roots. I believe every

piece I create is an extension of who I am inside and out," said Castro.

Elina Gharti Chhetri, owner of Marianas Creations, said that Saturday's event is about focusing on introducing CNMI artists who sell their products at Marianas Creations and giving them a platform to meet their customers and share their experiences of carving the products from start to finish. "We hope to continue such events in the future on a monthly basis, along with our First Friday events, when things get back to normal," she added.

Marianas Creations carries variety of products and artwork only made on Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and Guam. They are currently supporting 50-plus artists from the Marianas. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Shar Sablan, left, and Tanya Cutting, right, flank artist and carver Martin Camacho Castro Jr., after buying his beautifully carved necklaces at Marianas Creations.

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Non-NMD spouse of late justice seeks short-term interest in his land

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The surviving spouse of the late Pedro Manglona Atalig, a former justice of the CNMI Supreme Court, seeks to inherit an interest in some of her husband's real properties even though she is not of Northern Marianas descent.

Atalig's spouse, Nelida B. Atalig, through her lawyer, Joseph E. Horey, said her proposed distribution of her late husband's property does not violate Article 12 of the CNMI Constitution, and should be approved by the Superior Court.

She seeks to inherit an interest in some of her husband's real properties, an interest for a term not to exceed 55 year. In recognition of the restrictions imposed by Article 12 of the CNMI Constitution, Horey said that Nelida Atalig seeks a short-term interest only.

Article 12 of the CNMI Constitution limits landownership in the Commonwealth to persons of Northern Marianas descent. But, according to Horey, Article 12 only prohibits a non-NMD surviving spouse from inheriting a permanent and long-term interest in land when a decedent has

NMD children who can own land. Since the distribution that Nelida Atalig proposes would not result in her inheriting such an interest, it does not

violate Article 12.

Moreover, he said, his Nelida Atalig's proposed distribution conforms to CNMI law. As the surviving spouse, she

would ordinarily be statutorily entitled to one-half of all his properties, as well as "the primary family home and lot." Since she is a non-NMD, however, she takes only "the maximum allowable legal in-

terest" and the maximum allowable interest is no less than the 55-year interest, which Nelida proposes.

The Superior Court is set to hear the matter in an evidentiary hearing on April 22.

MCS Early Bird deadline on May 1

Mount Carmel School reminds interested families that the deadline for the Early Bird Special is scheduled for May 1, 2021.

The Early Bird Special is an opportunity for parents to avail of major registration and tuition discounts for the upcoming school year. The annual early bird registration discount is as

follows: For grades K4 - K5 registration is \$50 per student (normally \$100). For students in grades first through twelfth, the registration fee is \$100 per student (normally \$400).

"The Early Bird Special is made to help families save money and secure their child's seat for the next academic school year. Grade-levels can

fill up and we want to assist our community the best we can during this pandemic," said MCS president Dr. Galvin DeLeon Guerrero.

MCS senior Sinahi Cepeda said, "Although this is my last year, I have two other siblings that will continue to attend MCS. The Early Bird special is a great opportunity to take advantage of because the school also offers tuition dis-

counts for families that aren't normally offered in the regular school year."

Families with two children can avail of a \$600 tuition discount for the second child, families with three children can avail of a \$1,000 tuition discount for the third child, and families with four children can avail of a \$1,500 tuition discount for the fourth child. **(PR)**



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Department of Labor

Office of the Secretary
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NOTICE TO EMPLOYERS

In accordance with Employment Rules and Regulations of the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC), the CNMI Department of Labor (CNMI DOL) mandates compliance of the following for all eligible private sector employers. Failure or refusal to comply is cause for CNMI DOL to issue a Notice of Violation to the employer which may result in fines and other sanctions following a due process hearing in the Administrative Hearing Office.

1. Post Job Vacancy Announcement (JVA) on CNMI DOL website

An employer who intends to employ a foreign national worker, transitional worker, or nonimmigrant alien on a full-time basis (under any new employment arrangement, any renewal of any existing employment arrangement, or any transfer) must post a Job Vacancy Announcement (JVA) on the CNMI DOL website at www.marianaslabor.net. NMIAC § 80-20.1-225(a). No waiver is available for the job vacancy announcement requirement. NMIAC § 80-20.1-225(e).

2. Submit Total Workforce Listing

Each business employer **shall report quarterly**, as of the last day of the calendar quarter, **the number of employees, job classification, and the hourly wage** of employees for whom wages were paid during the quarter. NMIAC § 80-20.1-505(b) (emphasis added). The Department requires employers to present this information in a document called "Total Workforce Listing," *via email: documents@marianaslabor.net (Excel format)*.

The Total Workforce Listing is due each quarter:

1st Quarter (January – March)	due on April 30
2nd Quarter (April – June)	due on July 31
3rd Quarter (July – September)	due on October 31
4th Quarter (October – December)	due on January 31

Attention: The Total Workforce Listing for the 1st Quarter 2021 is due on or before April 30, 2021. Online submissions may be emailed to documents@marianaslabor.net (in Excel format), delivered to the DOL Administrative Services Office, Building #1356, Capitol Hill, or faxed to (670) 664-3197. Online submissions are preferable.

3. Adhere to Workforce Participation Minimum Percentage requirement

Any employer, unless exempt, who employs workers on a full-time basis must certify that 30% or more of its full-time employees are U.S. citizens, U.S. permanent residents, and/or CNMI permanent residents. 3 CMC § 4525 and NMIAC § 80-20.1-210(c)(3). Failure to maintain a minimum percentage of 30% will result in a Notice of Violation filed against the employer.

4. Submit new or updated Workforce Plan

All employers who employ nonimmigrant alien workers, unless exempt, must submit a new or updated Workforce Plan every twelve months. NMIAC § 80-20.1-510(c). A workforce plan shall identify specific positions currently occupied by a foreign national worker and timetable for accomplishing the replacement of the foreign national worker with qualified U.S. citizens, CNMI permanent residents, and U.S. permanent residents until the workforce participation objective is met. NMIAC § 80-20.1-510(b). *The Workforce Plan form is available on the CNMI DOL website under Forms & Publications at www.marianaslabor.net.*

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR EMPLOYERS WITH MULTI-ISLAND JOB SITES

An employer with multiple island job sites in any of the Mariana Islands must submit a separate report for each island. For example, if an organization employs workers for job sites in Saipan and Tinian then the employer must file two separate quarterly compliance reports (one for Saipan and another for Tinian).

- Rota employers must email the Total Workforce Listing and Workforce Plan to documents@marianaslabor.net **and** dolrota@gmail.com OR delivered to the Rota DOL Field Office at Old Rota High School Campus, Liyo Village.
- Tinian employers must email the Total Workforce Listing and Workforce Plan to documents@marianaslabor.net **and** tinianlabordepartment@gmail.com OR delivered to the Tinian DOL Field Office at Edu's Plaza, 1st Floor, San Jose Village.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR ALL EMPLOYERS WHOSE OPERATIONS WERE AFFECTED BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Indicate the employment status on the Total Workforce Listing of those employee that are currently on furlough, laid off or working reduce hours as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.



COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION

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AGENDA

*** April 22, 2021 ***

Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission"), hereby give notice that the Commission has scheduled its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, April 22, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at the Commission's 2nd Floor Main Conference Room at the Springs Plaza in Gualo Rai, Saipan. However, pursuant to Governor Torres' Executive Orders and Directives on the ongoing threat from the COVID-19 pandemic and limited space available, access to the Commission's meeting will also be available via video conference.

The following Agenda will be discussed:

I. PRELIMINARIES:

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Adoption of Agenda
- Adoption of Minutes: February 24, 2021 and March 25, 2021

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

III. REPORTS:

- Report by the Chairman
- Report by the Acting Executive Director

IV. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS:

- Casino Licensee – Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC ("IPI") – Updates:
 - Imperial Pacific Resort & Hotel ("IPR"). Update on the construction project.
 - Status on the receivership.
 - IPI Personnel:
 - Status of Employee Payroll
 - Status of unpaid payroll & severance pay for employees already off-island
- IPI Financial Matters.
- Other Miscellaneous Matters.

V. OLD BUSINESS:

- Governor's letter to IPI, dated February 26, 2021, regarding Notice of Non-Compliance of the Initial Gaming Facility Implementation Schedule. Requirements for submission of Compliance and Certification documents.
- Consideration and Adoption of CCC Order 2021-002 Final Order in Enforcement Actions 20-001 (consolidated) and 20-003 (consolidated).

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

- Consideration and Adoption of Commission Order prohibiting the issuance of new or renewal licenses for junket operations pending a review of part 2600 by the Commission, and directing the Executive Director not to process any applications for junket licenses until directed by the Commission.
- Adoption for publication for public comment amendments to modify or delete the Junket Programs in Part 2600 of the Regulations.
- Election of Officers for the Commonwealth Casino Commission: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and Public Affairs/Media Relations (Term of Office: May 1, 2021-April 30, 2022).
- Other New Business Matters

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- Consult with Legal Counsel
- Report by the CCC Divisions (Audit, Compliance, and Enforcement)
- CCC Personnel Matters

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Commission reserves the right to amend this Agenda and take action on the amended Agenda pursuant to 1 CMC §9910 (b). Pursuant to 1 CMC §9912 (a)(7) and 1 CMC §9912 (c), the Commission may vote to meet in Executive Session. In addition, the Commission may extend its official meeting for another day or more, if necessary. For those interested in joining or attending the meeting via video conference, please contact the Commission at info@cnmicasinocommission.com for instructions on how to log-in to the conference site.

/s/ Edward C. DeLeon Guerrero
Chairman

Project Haligi Aware holds mental health professional dev't on Tinian



Photos show staff and officers of the Tinian Elementary School and Tinian Jr./Sr. High School.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Public School System's Mental Health Program—Project Haligi Aware—held a professional development training for teachers and staff of the Tinian Elementary School and Tinian Jr./Sr. High School last Monday, April 12, 2021, to communicate the importance of mental health.

The training, called "Mental Health Matters," was aligned with Haligi Aware's advocacy to promote mental health and efficient self-care strategies, coping skills, and stress management through a variety of services, including the professional growth of educators. Haligi Aware prepares teachers and administrative staff to recognize and respond to students' behavioral and mental health issues. A goal of the program is to improve crisis response, intervention, and access to school-based and community mental health services.

"One of the reasons I asked

the mental health team to come to Tinian is because we have had many struggles with our staff and community in the last few months," said Tinian Elementary School principal Lou Connie Manglona. "We are happy to partake in this presentation that expands more on coping skills

and strategies to combat life's daily stressors. We want to provide for our children in the best way that we can, so we need to be mentally and physically healthy."

Tinian Jr./Sr. High School principal Dionne Santos said this was not the first time that they'd had support from the

mental health team, having undergone previous professional developments offered by Haligi Aware's mental health specialists. "However, I am grateful for the team coming here today and demonstrating how to effectively manage stress, especially with the two crises that we

have gone through in such a short amount of time. I think that it is essential to not only support our students, but we also have to be secure with ourselves and aid our mental wellness."

Haligi Aware is designed to support all students, staff, and families throughout the

CNMI who may be experiencing feelings of sadness or hopelessness to work toward resilience and mental wellness. In the months to follow, Haligi Aware will continue to provide a multi-tiered system of support for the optimal mental wellness of students, teachers and community. **PR**

Name: Ophinia Enis
Phone: 284-6730

Pro Se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In RE the Matter of the
Petition for the
Appointment of
General Guardianship for:

J.V.G.E. and R.O.E.
Minor Child

By:
Ophinia R. Enis
Petitioner

FCD-GU
CIVIL ACTION
NO. 21-0123

NOTICE OF
HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on May 24, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom Superior Court, before the Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio.

Dated this 14th day of April, 2021.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court

/s/
By: Deputy Clerk of Court

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Opinion

Hafa Adai! Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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EDITORIAL

At last, an end to the US deployment in Afghanistan

President Joe Biden's expected announcement Wednesday that he will begin removing all U.S. troops from Afghanistan by the end of the month and complete the withdrawal by Sept. 11, the 20th anniversary of the terror attacks that provoked the war, will finally bring to a close direct American military involvement there.

But as the administration has said, it will not end the government's role in trying to broker a lasting peace and regional stability. "What we won't do is use our troops as a bargaining chip in that process," a government official told the Washington Post, which first reported the development.

The situation remains dicey. The Trump administration signed an agreement last year to remove the last of U.S. troops by May 1 (which also would precipitate withdrawals by NATO allies), but that date was thrown into doubt after security officials warned that a precipitous departure could add to the instability and increase the chances of the country descending back into civil war.

It's unclear whether that risk diminishes if the U.S. waits until the end of summer to be gone, or what the Taliban might do in the interim (it has resisted attacking U.S. troops since the agreement). But the timing of our departure has been problematic ever since President George W. Bush launched the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan in the aftermath of the 9/11 terror attacks two decades ago. His and successive administrations have long struggled to craft an exit plan from a deployment that once peaked at about 100,000 troops.

What is clear is that it is in the best interests of Afghan President Ashraf Ghani, the Taliban and the U.S. to reach a lasting peace accord before the withdrawal of U.S. and allied troops. And at this point in that seemingly endless engagement, the departure of U.S. troops might compel the compromises necessary to achieve peace.

The original allied goal was to destroy the al-Qaida training bases and oust from power the Taliban regime of Islamist hard-liners who sheltered the terrorist network. Those goals were met, but we've had far less success standing up a sustainable, self-sufficient Afghan government. And we've been unable to broker a successful conclusion to the molasses-like negotiations between the Afghan government and a resurgent Taliban.

Continuing to risk American lives in Afghanistan has limited appeal to the American public, which is more focused on jobs, the economy and the COVID-19 pandemic than the situation in Afghanistan. That doesn't mean the Biden administration should slip the estimated 3,500 remaining U.S. troops out while Americans are distracted, but that the lack of clear options suggests the president would encounter little significant political opposition from a na-

See US on Next Page



The pandemic won't end anywhere until it's under control everywhere

Despite recent setbacks in Michigan and elsewhere, the United States is gradually approaching the day when we may be able to declare the COVID-19 pandemic under control—within our borders, that is.

But that won't mean the problem is over in the rest of the world—or even here at home in the long run.

Until there is worldwide control of the virus, the pandemic will continue to affect our health, our economy and even our safety from terrorism.

The first reason is obvious: The coronavirus won't sit still. As long as there are large pockets of people passing the virus, it will mutate, and those variants, potentially less responsive to our current vaccines, will travel here from Brazil, South Africa and anywhere else they appear.

On that count alone, the world's failure to deliver vaccines to needier countries is more than a scandal; it's a crisis. Dozens of countries, especially in Africa, have received no vaccines at all.

The head of the World Health Organization noted last week that in wealthy countries, about 1 in 4 adults have been vaccinated; in poor countries, the number is less than 1 in 500.

To take one example, Pakistan, a nuclear-armed country of more than 230 million, has vaccinated under 0.5% of its population.

Vaccine nationalism has been the rule, not the exception. Governments in rich countries have cornered as much vaccine supply as they can to take care of their own citizens, who not coincidentally are also voters.

Drug companies have rejected pleas from India, South Africa and other countries to waive patent protection for their vaccines. That's understandable from a business standpoint—but if Big Pharma doesn't do more to end the shortage, people around the world will blame the United States and other wealthy nations, not just Pfizer and Moderna.

And that takes us to the other, less obvious effects of a long-term pandemic—and there are many, as two recent reports from the U.S. intelligence community spelled out.

"The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic marks the most significant, singular global disruption since World War II, with health, economic, political, and security implications that will ripple for years to come," the National Intelligence Council's long-range "Global Trends" report warned.

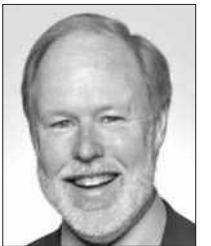
Let's start with the economic impact. Our economy is recovering, but in poor countries the pandemic recession has a long way to go. The intelligence community reported that food insecurity worldwide is on track to more than double, from affecting 135 million people in 2019 to a projected 330 million by the end of 2021.

A prolonged pandemic would be "a profound economic tragedy for those countries," Treasury Secretary Janet L. Yellen said last week, "but [it] would also be a problem for America."

By **DOYLE MCMANUS**

Los Angeles Times

Doyle McManus is a columnist for The Los Angeles Times. Readers may send him email at doyle.mcmanus@latimes.com



Then there's migration. When poor countries' economies collapse, desperate people move to wealthier places—West Africans and Syrians to Europe, Guatemalans and Hondurans to the United States.

And if people in poor nations believe their governments are handling the pandemic poorly, some of those regimes will collapse, the intelligence community warned.

"Hard-hit developing countries are experiencing financial and humanitarian crises, increasing the risk of surges in migration, collapsed governments, or internal conflict," the director of national intelligence's annual threat assessment reported on Tuesday.

Failed states can turn into hotbeds of terrorism, as we learned at great cost two decades ago; the intelligence report noted that some countries have reduced their counter-terrorism efforts because they need to focus on the pandemic.

All that instability also presents opportunities, but not necessarily welcome ones. Assertive, autocratic governments like China's may use the moment to shove weaker neighbors around. China is handling COVID-19 well; its neighbor the Philippines is not, and that could make it vulnerable.

Foreign aid to help end the pandemic isn't an act of charity; it's an act of self-interest.

Many global leaders understand this—but wealthy nations, including the United States, haven't acted on it yet.

Former British Prime Minister Gordon Brown proposed putting the Group of Seven in charge of a multinational relief effort that could include a temporary patent waiver. "The cost will be at least \$30 billion a year," he wrote—but that, he pointed out, is "less than 2% of Biden's \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan."

To be sure, the United States has provided \$4 billion to a United Nations program that is trying to get vaccines to poor countries—without much success so far. But ending the pandemic is going to take much more than that.

The pandemic won't be over anywhere until it's under control everywhere. If President Joe Biden sees eradicating COVID-19 as Job One, he'll need to lead a global effort before he can declare his mission accomplished.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Probe on Torres' public expenditures reopened

House Judiciary and Governmental Operations chairwoman Celina Babauta has announced that the JGO Committee is reopening the Legislature's investigation into the public expenditures of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.

The investigation began in the 21st Legislature, and, although the special committee appointed to review executive expenditures did not complete its work, the members of the then-House minority did produce a report of our findings and recommendations for oversight, reform, and continued investigation in the 22nd Legislature.

Here are some of the highlights from that report:

1. Between January 2015 and July 2020, Gov. Torres took at least 102 trips that cost taxpayers an estimated half a million dollars in airfare, per diem and stipends, lodging, and ground/boat transportation. This included at least 40 first-class or business class trips. CNMI law prohibits the use of public funds for premium-class airfare for any person. Also, because the governor nearly always traveled with companions, including security detail, staff, and other government officials, the total cost of executive travel was actually greater.

2. Between December 2016 and December 2019, Gov. Torres' spouse, first lady Diann Torres, took at least 31 government-funded trips, most of which were with the governor, including 14 first-class or business-class trips. The "first lady" is not an officially recognized government position, and Finance regulations bar the use of public funds for travel expenditures for non-government employees. Airfare costs alone for the first lady totaled approximately \$82,000.

3. Most of these trips by the governor and his spouse lacked the detailed trip reports and public purpose justifications required by law and Finance regulation.

4. Gov. Torres appears to have conducted political and personal activities while on government travel, and received gov-

ernment-funded reimbursements, per diem, and lodging during political or personal stops.

5. Gov. Torres' three-week promotional trip to the Northern Islands in the summer of 2020, in the middle of a global pandemic, cost the government more than \$90,000 and involved intensive use of government resources, including public safety officers, search and rescue boats, fuel, vehicles, equipment, supplies, and staff from multiple agencies.

6. That same promotional trip to the Northern Islands also involved multiple violations of CNMI law and regulations, including the illegal release of non-native Sambar deer on Pagan; hunting and fishing in designated sanctuaries; and the improper use of public safety vehicles to transport the governor's family members, friends, and associates on and around the islands.

7. Between January 2015 and December 2019, Gov. Torres incurred at least \$150,000 in official representation and reimbursement costs to the government, including tens of thousands of dollars in unallowable types of costs deemed personal or political under Finance regulations. These expenses ranged from sponsorships of sports teams and a K-Pop concert in Guam, to reimbursements for personal gifts or items such as rifle cases and hunting gear; reimbursement for a car battery for Gov. Torres' personal vehicle that was sold to a private citizen; and various lavish hostings of political operatives, "investors" and "business partners," and unnamed associates.

8. Gov. Torres appears to have requested and received reimbursements for expenses charged to credit cards that did not belong to him. At least 24 different credit cards appear in the receipts he submitted to Finance.

9. Between January 2015 and February 2019, Gov. Torres received at least \$17,500 in utility benefits paid by the government at his personal residence. The law does not specifically

By **CHRISTINE-MARIE SABLAN**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Christina Marie E. Sablan is a member of the CNMI House of Representatives of the 22nd Legislature.

provide for government-paid utilities when public officials reside in their private homes, and Finance regulations list utility expenses for private individuals as an unallowable expenditure of public funds.

The 21st House's minority report was presented in January and signed by myself and Reps.

Ed Villagomez, Sheila Babauta, Richard Lizama, Donald Manglona, and Franklin Reyes Babauta. Read the full report here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IhYEol7BIQg7PngeGAqrYW81NK8tJfem/view?usp=sharing>

I am a member of the JGO Committee in the 22nd House, and I fully support chairwoman Babauta's leadership and initiative in reopening this investigation, and, as she has put it, getting to the truth. I share her commitment, and the commitment of our colleagues on the committee, in conducting a fair, transparent, and thorough inquiry. Subpoenas will be issued. Hearings will be held. The governor will be afforded due process and an opportunity to fully respond to questions regarding his expenditures of public funds and conduct in public office.

The ultimate goal described in the 21st House's minority report remains the same for your 22nd House leadership: to improve accountability for public funds and restore trust in the people's government.

The spotlight is on Asian Americans now. What will we do with it to build a more just society?

Ican't recall any time in my life when Asian Americans were centered in public conversation as much as we are right now. Since the March 16 killings of eight people—including six Asian American women—in the Atlanta area, it's been like the whole country woke up and suddenly discovered Asian America exists.

There have been countless think pieces, podcasts, webinars, task forces, panels, rallies, concerned statements—dubbed in the aggregate as #StopAsianHate—all trying to tackle how to stop the series of attacks on Asian American people. The efforts have ranged in tone from the pleading "we belong here," to the defiant "stop white supremacy."

Yet while I was grateful to see attention finally begin to focus on the wildly diverse, fastest-growing segment of our population, I also felt uneasy.

I was raised with the ethos of cross-racial solidarity, of always examining my complicity in oppressive systems and dedicating my efforts to the greatest needs and the most grievous harms. Would focusing on the attacks on Asian Americans distract from the anti-Blackness that led to the killing of George Floyd and the subsequent national reckoning around race and policing? Would Asian Americans once again be used as a cudgel to justify a law-and-order response to the attacks that would disproportionately hurt Black and brown people? Would these attacks allow

Asian Americans to skirt our own desperately needed reckoning around anti-Blackness in our own communities?

Struggling with these questions, at the recommendation of Elliott Bay Books' Karen Maeda Allman, I finally picked up my copy of poet, writer and scholar Cathy Park Hong's 2020 book "Minor Feelings," which like most things about Asian Americans, I had put on the shelf, unread, for many months, in favor of books on what seemed like "more important" issues, like mass incarceration and police brutality.

Almost immediately upon reading, I experienced what Hong calls a "shock of recognition." For the first time in my life, I read thoughts that acknowledged and reflected back the unease I felt.

"My shame is not cultural but political," she writes. "It is being painfully aware of the power dynamic that pulls at the levers of social interactions and the cringing indignity of where I am in that order either as the afflicted—or as the afflicter."

While written before the pandemic, Hong's words could not be more salient today. She put to paper what I have long been thinking but didn't know the words to say.

Asian Americans inhabit a "vague purgatorial status" she writes in her book. "Not white enough nor black enough; distrusted by African Americans, ignored by whites, unless we're being used by whites to keep the black man down."

Even the concept of Asian American, as an identity, often sits on our shoulders like an ill-fitting suit. Crafted during the late 1960s as a critical political tool to unite disparate groups and build power, the term "Asian American" grouped people that colonialism and imperialism had pitched against each other into one body.

As Hong, the Los Angeles-born daughter of Korean American immigrants, said in her book, "The paint on the Asian American label has not dried. The term is unwieldy, cumbersome, perched awkwardly upon my being."

What does a Cambodian refugee facing deportation in the U.S. have in common with a third-generation Japanese American like myself? What do I still need to learn about South Asians, Southeast Asians, Korean Americans, for example, that "Asian American" obscures from my view?

As Hong said in an interview in Vox, we are not a country that

By **NAOMI ISHISAKA**

The Seattle Times



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is too interested in this history (or, I would add, our country's role in the wars that drive displacement and migration). "My parents, for instance, experienced the Korean War where 20 percent of the peninsula died," Hong said. "But then you come to this country and no one remembers it. No one cares about it. No one has any understanding of it. It's that same idea of your reality or your history being just completely unacknowledged."

Part of the reason for this is that our lives, experiences and histories are not taught in schools and, as Hong writes, "Although it's now slowly changing, we have been mostly nonexistent in politics, entertainment, and the media, and barely represented in the arts."

To change this, we must stop taking up, as Hong calls it, "apolgetic" and "conditional" space, where belonging is "always promised and just out of reach so that we behave, whether it's the insatiable acquisition of material belongings or belonging as a peace of mind where we are absorbed into mainstream society."

I yearn for a future where we can learn and struggle alongside one another, in solidarity with one another, challenging our own complicity and refusing to become a tool for those who don't believe we have a right to be here.

"Whiteness has already recruited us to become their junior partners in genocidal wars; conscripted us to be antiblack and colorist; to work for, and even head, corporations that scythe off immigrant jobs like heads of wheat," Hong writes. "Conscription is every day and unconscious. It is the default way of life among those of us who live in relative comfort, unless we make an effort to choose otherwise."






US

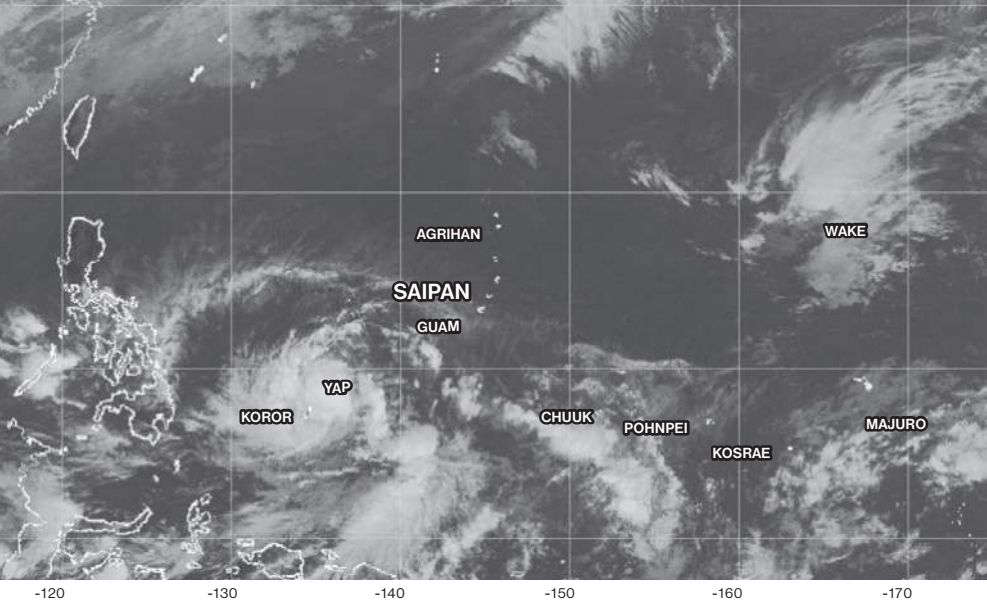
From Page 10

tion tired of war.

So the president is right to make this move, but he also must make certain that the U.S. and its allies continue to exert whatever diplomatic influence they can to keep the sporadic attacks by each side from escalating into open civil war, and to ensure the region doesn't become a fresh nest for terrorists. The best path to a sustainable peace, and political and social stability, is that the Afghans themselves negotiate the path to their own future.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY	
									
Partly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.		Partly cloudy. Isolated showers.		Partly cloudy. Isolated showers.		Partly cloudy. Isolated showers.	
87°	77°	87°	77°	87°	77°	87°	77°	87°	77°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 7:45 AM, THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2021
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Weather is quiet across the Marianas, with isolated showers and moderate trade winds. Skies are generally partly cloudy, but a band of thick cirrus persists over Guam. At the buoys, combined seas are between 6 and 7 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.


- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html>
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
 - Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
 - Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20



seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mp and, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Rain	86	78 °F
Palau	Thunderstorms	86	70 °F
Yap	Rain	85	71 °F
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	85	80 °F
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86	78 °F
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	84	78 °F
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85	80 °F

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:02 AM	6:31 PM
Saturday	6:01 AM	6:31 PM
Sunday	6:01 AM	6:31 PM
Monday	6:00 AM	6:32 PM
Tuesday	5:59 AM	6:32 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	8:40 AM	9:55 PM	-
Saturday	9:25 AM	10:47 PM	-
Sunday	10:13 AM	11:39 PM	-
Monday	11:04 AM	-	-
Tuesday	-	12:30 AM	11:58 AM

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Cloudy	70	60 °F
Beijing	Sunny	80	51 °F
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	79	72 °F
Honolulu	Sunny	84	70 °F
London	Partly Cloudy	61	48 °F
Los Angeles	Mainly Sunny	69	52 °F
Manila	Sunny	96	77 °F
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	64	47 °F
Miami	Sunny	81	72 °F
New York	Partly Cloudy	63	46 °F
Osaka	Mainly Sunny	70	57 °F
Paris	Partly Cloudy	61	46 °F
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	71	49 °F
Rome	Sunny	67	51 °F
Salem	Cloudy	53	38 °F
San Francisco	Mainly Sunny	59	46 °F
Seoul	Rain	60	49 °F
Tokyo	Sunny	67	56 °F
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	68	51 °F

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
4:18 AM	Low Tide	1.08	
9:13 AM	High Tide	1.69	
4:26 PM	Low Tide	0.06	
11:28 PM	High Tide	1.71	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 29, 2021

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	6:30am	7:10am	1, 4, 5, 6	UA174	4:50am	5:31am	1, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183	6:30am	8:50pm	5 via Guam	UA184/174	9:50pm	5:31am+1	5 via Guam
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
UA183	7:05pm	8:50pm	5	UA184	9:50pm	3:45am+1	5
UA183	7:15pm	9:10pm	1, 3,	UA184	10:25pm	4:10am+1	1, 3
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. <i>(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)</i>							

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 9, 2021

SAIPAN TO ROTA				1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri/Sat	1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1303	3:30PM	4:00PM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri/Sun	1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri/Sat	1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
3103	4:30PM	5:00PM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri/Sun	1211	17:00	17:15	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM				1212	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
GUAM TO ROTA				2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable	2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
				2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
				2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
				2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
				2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
				2111	17:30	17:45	Daily
				2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

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PM 17:00 ~ 21:00





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Department of Community and Cultural Affairs
Office of the Secretary

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Tel. (670) 664-2587 Fax (670) 664-2571



ANNOUNCEMENT

The Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Program continues to be open to accept applications for Front liners. Front liners are defined as:

1. Front liners/workers assigned to working on Covid-19 activities with direct contact of individuals for example: workers at testing sites, workers at quarantine sites, law enforcement assisting at testing sites;
2. Law enforcement, public safety officers, CNMI Homeland Security employees, emergency medical services working on Covid-19 activities with direct contact of individuals, including all individuals who work and provide medical services at the hospital or private clinics;
3. Retail cashiers, gas attendants, sanitation workers, bank tellers;
4. Child care teachers, caregivers, including employees in the educational sector.

Front liners who may not necessarily meet income guidelines for the family may still qualify. For more information regarding eligibility requirements, please call Genevieve Guerrero, CCDF Eligibility Specialist at 664-2576 or email at dcca.jguerrero@gmail.com or Joella Rosario, CCDF Eligibility Specialist at 664-2575 or email at ccdf.jrosario@gmail.com. You may also want to visit cnmiclp.gov.mp to download the CCDF Waitlist Application Packet.

/s/ Maribel D. Loste
CCDF Administrator

/s/ Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero
DCCA Secretary



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-21-022

Installation of Primary Screen

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Installation of Primary Screen in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The intent of the contract is for the Contractor to provide all labor, equipment, supplies and materials necessary to complete the scope of work which consists of: the installation of a primary screen (OFCL), foundations, sewer piping, sewer valves and valve box, water service, electrical service, water booster pump, basket strainers, and rehabilitation and modification of existing improvements, along with other miscellaneous features, for one unit at Sadog Tasi Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The work shall be completed with minimal disruption to the daily operation of the Sadog Tasi WWTP. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 180 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The project is funded through Saipan Local Law 20-19.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **April 21, 2021 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-21-022, Installation of Primary Screen" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 13, 2021, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of not less than fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General.

A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on April 27, 2021** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Westen Knudsen, CUC Water/Wastewater Engineer via email westen.knudsen@cucgov.org and to Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Senior Administrative Technician - marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM GILMORE
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLON
Purchasing Officer

Developer allegedly owes \$421.8K

An architectural and engineering firm is suing a property developer in the U.S. District Court of the NMI for allegedly not paying for services rendered in designing the Saipan Garden Resort and Heaven II development projects and is demanding to be paid \$421,800 plus interest.

H.K. Pangelinan & Associates, LLC filed a complaint and demand for jury trial against American Sinopan, LLC, citing "breach of contract, fraudulent inducement, negligent misrepresentation, and quantum meruit."

The court action, filed on April 9, 2021, is related to contracts between the two parties dated Dec. 21 2017, and on or about June 6 2018, between HKPA and American Sinopan. The lawsuit cites four courses of action against Sinopan. HKPA claims to have fully provided "civil engineering, design, drawings, and related permitting services" to American Sinopan's Saipan Garden Resort Development project in Tanapag and its Heaven II Development project in Savanna, yet HKPA has allegedly not paid for the services rendered. The lawsuit claims that the services rendered totaled \$421,800 plus interest, that has not been paid in full to this day.

Furthermore, the case alleges that Pan Guohan and Ken Lin, general manager and architect for American Sinopan respectively, "made repeated promises, statements, and guarantees to HKPA that it would receive full payment for its work."

The case was filed by the Thompson Law, LLC law firm on the behalf of the architectural firm. The case awaits further review. *(Joshua Santos)*



A Northern Mariana Islands Social Service JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) HUMAN TRAFFICKING OUTREACH SPECIALIST

For more information, job description and application can be obtained from Karidat Main Office at Sister Remedios Community Center Chalan Kanoa.

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED: Complete application form, copy of diploma/degree, resume/bio-data; current police clearance within 6 months and a copy of valid CNMI driver's license.

NO PHONE INQUIRIES PLEASE.
CLOSING DATE: FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 2021 AT 4:00PM



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL MVA-RFP-21-2027

For: Marianas Visitors Authority Office Space Lease

Submission /Closing Date: April 23, 2021 Time: 1:00 p.m.
Submit sealed proposals to: Marianas Visitors Authority
Attn: Procurement Office
San Jose Professional Building
Beach Rd., San Jose
P.O. Box 500861
Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the Scope of Work on or after **April 14, 2021** at the **Marianas Visitors Authority Office, San Jose Professional Building, Beach Road, San Jose, Saipan**, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

/s/ Gloria C. Cavanagh
Acting Chairperson, MVA Board of Directors

/s/ Priscilla M. Iakopo
Managing Director, MVA

Name: Ramona I. Corpuz
Address: P.O. Box 502940 CK,
Saipan MP 96950
Phone: 588-9917

Pro Se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In Re the Matter of the Petition for the Appointment of General Guardianship for: K.I.T. Minor Child
By: Ramona I. Corpuz Petitioner

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on May 7, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom Superior Court, before Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio.

Dated this 12th day of February, 2021.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court

/s/
By: Deputy Clerk of Court

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: 234-7859 | Fax: 234-5750
Attorney for Plaintiff Bernadita Cabrera Palacios

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BERNADITA CABRERA PALACIOS, Plaintiff, vs. HONG DA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, Defendant.

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT, HONG DA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION:

You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Commonwealth Superior Court by Plaintiff Bernadita Cabrera Palacios, on her COMPLAINT FOR RECOVERY OF POSSESSION AND DAMAGES PURSUANT TO THE HOLDOVER TENANCY ACT.

You may file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint filed against you in this action within **Twenty-One (21) Days** after the date of the last publication of this Summons. You must deliver or mail a copy of your answer to **Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya), P.O. Box 503758 CK, Saipan, MP 96950**, or as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Court of the above-entitled Court for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Office of the Clerk of Court, CNMI SUPERIOR COURT, 1st Floor, Guma' Hustisia, Limmwal Aweewe, House of Justice, Susupe Village, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan MP 96950-0307. It may be prepared and signed for you by your Attorney and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or by mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, judgement by default pursuant to the court rules of the above-entitled Court may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

Dated this 26th day of March, 2021.

/s/
Clerk of Court



NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) Board of Directors hereby gives notice that a special meeting is being called on Thursday, April 22, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. in the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Classroom at the Airport Fire Station located at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport on the island of Saipan. The following items are on the agenda for the above-referenced meeting:

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call
 - c. Adoption of Agenda
 - d. Adoption of Minutes (March 31, 2021)
 - II. PUBLIC COMMENT(S)
 - III. SPECIAL MEETING ITEMS:
 1. Echo Dock Award
 2. Supplemental Budget Request: Rota West Harbor Fence
 3. Airline Rate Discount
 - IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION (If needed)
 - V. MISCELLANEOUS/ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - VI. ADJOURNMENT
- Tune in online as we stream live on the Commonwealth Ports Authority's Facebook page. Written testimony on the agenda items must be sent via email before the meeting to cpa.admin@pticom.com. Attendees (in person) must wear a mask and practice social distancing.
- KIMBERLYN KING-HINDS
Chairwoman,
Board of Directors
- April 14, 2021

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

RENATO G. CALAGE, JR. Petitioner vs. Cresette Bartolome Respondent.

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 5505 CHRB Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 9th day of October, 2020.

/s/ Clerk of Court

Business

Study finds that blocking seats on planes reduces risk for virus

A new study says leaving middle seats open could give airline passengers more protection from the virus that causes COVID-19.

Researchers said the risk of passengers being exposed to the virus from an infected person on the plane could be reduced by 23% to 57% if middle seats are empty, compared with a full flight.

The study released Wednesday supports the response of airlines that limited seating early in the pandemic. However, all U.S. airlines except Delta now sell every seat they can, and Delta will stop blocking middle seats on May 1.

The airlines argue that filters and air-flow systems on most planes make them safe when passengers wear face masks,

as they are now required to do by federal regulation.

Researchers at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Kansas State University estimated how far airborne virus particles travel inside a plane. They used mannequins that emitted aerosol to measure the flow of virus particles through airline cabin mock-ups.

Ponzi schemer Bernie Madoff dies in prison at 82

NEW YORK (AP)—Bernard Madoff, the infamous architect of an epic securities swindle that burned thousands of investors, outfoxed regulators and earned him a 150-year prison term, died behind bars early Wednesday. He was 82.

Madoff's death at the Federal Medical Center in Butner, North Carolina, was confirmed by his lawyer and the Bureau of Prisons.

Last year, Madoff's lawyers unsuccessfully asked a court to release him from prison during the coronavirus pandemic, saying he suffered from end-stage renal disease and other chronic medical conditions.

One of those lawyers, Brandon Sample, said on Wednesday it was believed Madoff died from natural causes related to his failing health.

For decades, Madoff enjoyed an image as a self-made financial guru whose Midas touch defied market fluctuations. A former chairman of the Nasdaq stock market, he attracted a devoted legion of investment clients—from Florida retirees to celebrities such as film director Steven Spielberg, actor Kevin Bacon and Hall of Fame pitcher Sandy Koufax.

But his investment advisory business was exposed in 2008 as a Ponzi scheme that wiped out people's fortunes and ruined charities. He became so hated he wore a bulletproof vest to court.

The fraud was believed to be the largest in Wall

Tracking Madoff's downfall

Key events in the case of financier Bernard L. Madoff, who admitted to operating a huge Ponzi scheme since the 1980s that defrauded thousands of investors.

2008

- Dec. 10** Madoff allegedly confesses to his sons that his \$50 billion investment business was "one big lie"
- Dec. 11** Arrested by FBI on charges of securities fraud; released on \$10 million bail
- Dec. 15** Federal judge orders U.S. operations of his firm liquidated
- Dec. 18** French hedge fund manager Thierry de la Villehuchet commits suicide over losses at Madoff's hands

2009

- Jan. 9** Bail revoked after it becomes known that he mailed jewelry, other valuables to family and friends, violating a court-ordered freeze
- Jan. 12** Placed on 24-hour home detention
- Feb. 10** Reaches agreement with SEC that prevents him from working in the financial industry again
- Feb. 20** Liquidator finds no record of any investments being made by his firm for the last 13 years
- March 3** Gives up rights to his investment business, company artwork and entertainment tickets
- March 6** Waives grand jury indictment
- March 12** Pleads guilty to 11 counts, including securities fraud and money laundering
- March 16** Authorities seize \$69 million in assets held in his wife Ruth Madoff's name; in later settlement, she is left \$2.5 million
- March 18** Madoff's accountant David Freihling arrested, charged with fraud
- June 16** In letters to the sentencing judge, more than 100 former clients outline devastation wreaked on their lives by Madoff's scheme
- June 29** Sentenced to 150 years in prison

Source: Wall Street Journal, London Times, The Guardian
Graphic: Staff, TNS

Street's history.

Over the years, court-appointed trustees laboring to unwind the scheme have recovered more than \$14 billion of an estimated \$17.5 billion

investors put into Madoff's business. At the time of Madoff's arrest, fake account statements were telling clients they had holdings worth \$60 billion.

Treasury Department creates office to oversee virus relief

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Treasury Department has created a new office to supervise the disbursement of the billions of dollars in relief money authorized by Congress to combat the coronavirus-related recession.

Officials said Wednesday that the goal is to streamline the process and ensure all eligible groups have access to the aid.

The Office of Recovery Programs will oversee the

release of \$420 billion in support from the \$1.9 trillion package that President Joe Biden pushed through Congress last month, the Treasury said. That package included payments of up to \$1,400 for individuals, extended emergency unemployment benefits, rental assistance, support for small businesses and state and local governments.

The new office will also be responsible for supervising

programs under the control of Treasury that were approved by Congress last year. In all, Congress has approved around \$5 trillion in assistance to help millions of people who lost their jobs, and also businesses that were forced to close due to the pandemic.

Deputy Treasury Secretary Wally Adeyemo said the goal of the new office was to "get relief distributed quickly and into the hands of those who need it most."

Nation

Capsized ship off Louisiana: 12 missing, 1 dead, 6 rescued

PORT FOURCHON, La. (AP)—Coast Guard boats and aircraft have covered an area larger than the state of Rhode Island to search for 12 people still missing Wednesday off the Louisiana coast after their offshore oilfield vessel capsized in hurricane-force winds.

One worker's body was recovered Wednesday and six people were rescued Tuesday after the Seacor Power over-

turned Tuesday afternoon in the Gulf of Mexico, the Coast Guard said.

The search, interrupted by darkness and bad weather, has totaled nearly 40 hours and more than 1,440 square miles (3,730 square kilometers) of Gulf waters by Wednesday afternoon, according to a news release. The hunt for the missing continued into the evening, said Petty Officer Carlos Galarza.

Coast Guard Capt. Will Watson said earlier that winds were 80 to 90 mph (130 to 145 kph) and waves rose 7 to 9 feet high (2.1 to 2.7 meters) when the lift boat overturned.

"That's challenging under any circumstance," Watson said. "We don't know the degree to which that contributed to what happened, but we do know those are challenging conditions to be out in the maritime environment."

Ex-cop charged in shooting of Black motorist

BROOKLYN CENTER, Minn. (AP)—A white former suburban Minneapolis police officer was charged Wednesday with second-degree manslaughter for killing 20-year-old Black motorist Daunte Wright in a shooting that ignited days of unrest and clashes between protesters and police.



Potter

The charge against former Brooklyn Center police Officer Kim Potter was filed

three days after Wright was killed during a traffic stop and as the nearby murder trial progresses for the ex-officer charged with killing George Floyd last May.

The former Brooklyn Center police chief has said that Potter, a 26-year veteran and training officer, intended to use her Taser on Wright but fired her handgun instead. However, protesters and Wright's family members say there's

no excuse for the shooting and that it shows how the justice system is tilted against Blacks, noting Wright was stopped for an expired car registration and ended up dead.

"Certain occupations carry an immense responsibility and none more so than a sworn police officer," Imran Ali, Washington County assistant criminal division chief, said in a statement announcing the charge against Potter. "(Potter's) action caused the unlawful killing of Mr. Wright and she must be held accountable."

ACROSS THE NATION

Defense expert blames George Floyd's death on heart trouble

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—George Floyd died of a sudden heart rhythm disturbance as a result of his heart disease, a forensic pathologist testified for the defense Wednesday at former Officer Derek Chauvin's murder trial, contradicting prosecution experts who said Floyd succumbed to a lack of oxygen from the way he was pinned down. Dr. David Fowler, a former Maryland chief medical examiner who is now with a consulting firm, said the fentanyl and methamphetamine in Floyd's system, and possibly carbon monoxide poisoning from auto exhaust, were contributing factors in the 46-year-old Black man's death last May. "All of those combined to cause Mr. Floyd's death," he said on the second day of the defense case. Fowler also testified that he would classify the manner of death "undetermined," rather than homicide, as the county's chief medical examiner ruled. He said Floyd's death had too many conflicting factors, some of which could be ruled homicide and some that could be considered accidental.

Red states on U.S. electoral map lagging on vaccinations

SAVANNAH, Georgia (AP)—With coronavirus shots now in the arms of nearly half of American adults, the parts of the U.S. that are excelling and those that are struggling with vaccinations are starting to look like the nation's political map: deeply divided between red and blue states. Out in front is New Hampshire, where 65% of the population age 18 and older has received at least one dose of the vaccine, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Following close behind are New Mexico, Connecticut, Maine

and Massachusetts at 55% or greater. All have a history of voting Democratic and supported President Joe Biden in the 2020 election. Meanwhile, at the bottom are five states where fewer than 40% have rolled up their sleeves for a shot. Four of them—Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana and Tennessee—lean Republican and voted for Donald Trump last fall. The fifth is Georgia, which has a Republican governor and supported GOP presidential candidates for nearly three decades before narrowly backing Biden.

Stinging report raises new questions about Capitol security

WASHINGTON (AP)—Shields that shattered upon impact. Weapons too old to use. Missed intelligence in which future insurrectionists warned, "We get our president or we die." As Congress pushes for a return to normalcy months after the Jan. 6 riot at the Capitol, a damning internal report about the deadly siege is painting a dire picture of the Capitol Police's ability to respond to threats against lawmakers. The full report obtained by The Associated Press before the department's watchdog testifies at a House hearing casts serious doubt on whether the police would be able to respond to another large-scale attack. The Capitol Police have so far refused to publicly release the report—prepared in March and marked as "law enforcement sensitive"—despite congressional pressure. Democratic Rep. Zoe Lofgren of California, who heads the House Administration Committee, said last month that she found the report, along with another she had reviewed, "detailed and disturbing." The inspector general who prepared it, Michael A. Bolton, was scheduled to testify before Lofgren's committee Thursday.

World

WORLD BRIEFS

Thailand's daily COVID infections hit record, topping 1,300

BANGKOK (AP)—Thailand reported more than 1,300 new COVID-19 infections on Wednesday, setting another daily record and adding pressure on the government to speed up a nearly nonexistent vaccination drive and do more to control a surge that comes amid mass travel as the country celebrates its traditional

New Year festival. The 1,335 new infections brings the number of new cases to nearly 7,000 since April 1, when a cluster linked to nightclubs and bars in central Bangkok was found. Most of the new cases reported Wednesday were yet again in Bangkok, but also seeing hefty increases were the northern province of Chiang Mai and the southern seaside province of Prachuap Khiri Khan.

Mexico moves to require biometric data from cellphone users

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Activists and opposition figures cried foul Wednesday after Mexico's Senate passed legislation to require cellphone companies to gather customers' identification and biometric data, like fingerprints or eye scans. President Andrés Manuel López Obrador's Morena party supported the bill, saying it is needed to

fight crimes like extortion and kidnapping that frequently involve the use of cellphones. The legislation, which was already passed by the Chamber of Deputies, would give cell companies two years to collect the data and make it available to the government. Civic groups said the measure would put customers' personal data at risk and do little to fight crime. The Mexican government has tried cellphone registries before with-

out success and hasn't even been able to block cell calls from within prisons.

Canadian lawmaker caught naked during video conference

OTTAWA, Ontario (AP)—A Canadian Parliament member was caught stark naked in a virtual meeting of the House of Commons. William Amos, who has represented the Quebec district of Pontiac since 2015, appeared on the screens of his fellow lawmakers completely naked Wednesday. The pandemic has meant many Canadian lawmakers participate in sessions via video conference instead of in person. A screenshot obtained by The Canadian Press shows Amos standing behind a desk between the Quebec and Canadian flags, his private parts hidden by what appears to be a mobile phone in one hand. "This was an unfortunate error," Amos said in a statement sent by email. "My video was accidentally turned on as I was changing into my work clothes after going for a jog. I sincerely apologize to my colleagues in the House of Commons for this unintentional distraction. Obviously, it was an honest mistake and it won't happen again."

China-drafted electoral reform bill introduced in Hong Kong

HONG KONG (AP)—Hong Kong's electoral reform bill was introduced in the city's legislature on Wednesday, setting in motion changes that will give Beijing greater control over the process while reducing the number of directly elected representatives. The bill is part of efforts to rein in political protests and opposition in Hong Kong, which is part of China but has had a more liberal political system since the 1997 handover from Britain. Political freedoms have been under threat since China imposed a national security law on Hong Kong last year and is now revamping its electoral process as part of a crackdown after months of pro-democracy protests in 2019 that brought hundreds of thousands to the streets. Hong Kong Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Erick Tsang said at a meeting at the legislature that the bill will bolster the national foundation and improve the governance of Hong Kong. The bill was read for the first and second time on Wednesday. It is expected to pass by the end of May after the third read-

ing with little opposition. All pro-democracy lawmakers resigned in November following the ousting of four of their colleagues who were deemed insufficiently loyal by Beijing.

Ex-US officials visit Taiwan amid China tensions

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—A former U.S. senator and two ex-State Department officials arrived in Taiwan on Wednesday for talks with the island's leaders at a time of tense relations with China. Chris Dodd, a Democratic senator from Connecticut from 1981 to 2011, was accompanied by two former deputy secretaries of state, James Steinberg from the Democratic Obama administration and Richard Armitage, who served under Republican President George W. Bush. The delegation will meet President Tsai Ing-wen on Thursday and exchange views with other government departments during their three-day visit, the Foreign Ministry said. The U.S. has repeatedly expressed concern about Chinese military activity near Taiwan including frequent military flights. Taiwan Foreign Ministry spokesperson Joanne Ou said the government welcomed the delegation from President Joe Biden's administration, whose visit "conveys the U.S.'s firm friendship and support for Taiwan."

Russia targets student magazine with raids, criminal charges

MOSCOW (AP)—Russian authorities on Wednesday charged four editors of an online student magazine with encouraging minors to take part in illegal activity for a report about the nationwide protests supporting jailed opposition leader Alexei Navalny. All four were ordered by a court not to leave their residences for the next two months and were banned from using the internet and communicating with anyone other than immediate family, lawyers and law-enforcement agencies. The charges, which carry a potential sentence of three years in prison, come amid heightened pressure on independent news media. Police raided the Moscow apartments of the four DOXA magazine editors as well as the apartments of two of the editors' parents and the magazine's offices before taking the editors in for questioning, according to DOXA and a human rights group involved in their defense.

MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION †VICTOR T. VENUS

Lovingly known as "Manong Vic"



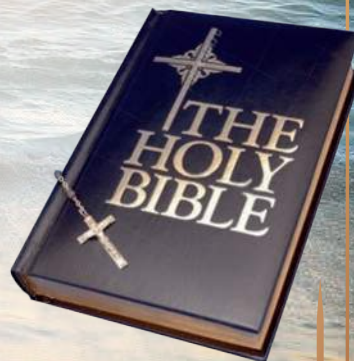
We, the Venus, Fernando, Iguel, Teigita, and Nocentelli Family would like to thank you for all of the outpouring love, support, & prayers that you have shared with us in this difficult time. We would like to extend our deepest gratitude & appreciation to the following:

- CHCC Staff (Screeners, Business Office, Emergency Room (ER), MedSurg, Family Care Clinic (FCC), Oncology Nurses and Doctors, and Radiology Technologists)
- Saipan Mayor David Apatang
- House Representatives
 - o Rep. Edmund Villagomez
 - o Rep. Blas Jonathan "BJ" Attao
 - o Rep. Ivan Blanco
 - o Rep. Joseph "Lee Pan" Guerrero
- Saipan Unity Lions Club
- El Shaddai Choir
- Rev. Fr. Albert Pellazar, OAR & Rev. Fr. Anthony Aguason
- Ms. Marcy Cepeda
- Borja Funeral Homes
- Department of Public Works (DPW)
- Bureau of Environmental Health (BEH)
- Ms. Josie Espinosa
- UCLA Department of Care Coordination & Clinical Social Work
- Everyone who joined us for the funeral proceedings
- All generous donors

We truly appreciate your part in helping us to celebrate Victor T. Venus' life & his entry into his new life in heaven.

Thank you! Salamat po! Si yu'us ma'ase!

Aida Venus & Family



In Celebration of Her New Life

Retta Sue Sablan Hamilton

— October 08, 1973 - April 07, 2021 —

Survived by:

Mother: Delia Reyes Sablan

Sisters & Brothers and their families:

Myra Hamilton/Jeffrey Heston
(Joshua, Chad, Sterling, Zachariah, Jessica)
Dora Mae H. Pagasian/Edwin (Dexter, Juan Jr., Jennika)
Paula Jane Hamilton/Bill Corsack
(†Rica, Renae/Ryan (Shavonne, RJ, Carter), Juan II, Reiamn, Paris)
Joanne H. Aldan/Peter (Brittney, Jacob, Tiana, Ava)
Ricardo Dado II (Skyy, Sage, Scarlett, Soul)
Michelle H. Tomokane/Jeffrey (Brandon, Abbigelle, Ethan, Chace)
Anthony C. Hamilton/Jessica (Jayden, Anthony Jr., Austin)
John C. Hamilton (Jeremiah, Madison)
Matthew C. Hamilton/Erica Pangelinan (Naomi)

Friend: Jesse D. Torres

Fur Babies: Zori, Dorothy, Typhoon

Maternal Aunts & Uncles and their families:

Elizabeth S. Pratt/Gordon & family
Rudy R. Sablan/Nola & family
Viola R. Sablan & family
Mildred S. Torres/Oscar & family
†Nora R. Sablan & family
Delbert R. Sablan/Jeanne & family

Paternal Aunts & Uncles and their families:

Nadine H. Sablan/†Henry & family
Betty Jane H. Johnson/Mike & family
Ruby Jean H. Northen/Rick & family

Predeceased by:

Father: †Paul C. Hamilton

Grandparents: †Wilburn C. Hamilton & †Carmen W. Hamilton
†Manuel T. Sablan & †Dolores R. Sablan

Niece: †Rica Shavonne Hamilton Ada

Maternal Aunt: †Nora R. Sablan

Paternal Uncle: †Henry I. Sablan

Retta Sue is also survived by generations of aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, godchildren and loyal friends.

**Mass of intention is celebrated
on the following:**

Mount Carmel Cathedral

6am daily, April 11 & 18 9am

Kristo Rai Church

6am daily

Santa Soledad Church

6pm (no mass Monday), Sunday 10:30am

St Jude Church

6pm (Mon-Sat), Sunday 6am/8am/10am

Santa Remedios Church

6pm (Mon-Sat), Sunday 7am

San Vicente Church

6am Friday, Saturday 5:30pm, Sunday 9am
April 12 - 16 6pm (Mon-Fri), Saturday 5:30pm,
Sunday 10:30am

Funeral Services will be held on Monday,
April 19, 2021. Responso Service will be at 9:00 a.m.
followed by Holy Rosary. Mass of Christian Burial
will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m.

Thank you and Si Yu'us Ma'ase
The Family

Off The Wall

Nurse gets stuck in mud

BOSTON (AP)—Camille Coelho just wanted to take a stroll on the beach and look for some sea glass. Instead, the Massachusetts nurse ended up feeling the way so many have felt during the pandemic: she was stuck in the mud.

The 54-year-old was taking a walk at Boston's Constitution Beach on Thursday when she found herself sinking into the low tide's wet sand. Soon it was up to her knees and left her unable to move, according to an account she gave to The Boston Herald.

"It's a great metaphor for the year," Coelho, a nurse in South Shore Hospital's intensive care unit, told the Herald. "I can't believe it. I stepped in mud and pretty soon it was up to my knees, and I was stuck."

Her dilemma caught the attention of other beachgoers, who called for help. Coelho



Boston firefighters and local residents aid Camille Coelho, center, who became stuck in deep mud along Boston Harbor while looking for sea glass at low tide, Thursday April 8, 2021 in Boston.

was with her son's lab, Lucy, who didn't get stuck and stayed near her side. While she was waiting, she saw a traffic helicopter and wondered if her quandary was somehow to

blame for backups.

"I called a friend and told them, 'Google woman trapped in mud,'" Coelho told the Herald.

Before long, firefighters ar-

rived and were able to pull her to safety. All told, it was one more awful episode during a pandemic that has been full of them. But Coelho said this one made her laugh.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Bunny snatched: Record-holding giant rabbit stolen in UK

LONDON (AP)—Police say one of the world's biggest bunnies has been stolen from its home in central England. Darius, a Continental Giant rabbit, disappeared from his enclosure in a backyard in the village of Stoulton over the weekend, the West Mercia Police force said. They did not elaborate on why they thought it was a theft instead of an escape. The force appealed for any information about or sightings of Darius, who is gray-brown and 129 centimeters (4 feet, 3 inches)

long at full stretch. He holds the Guinness World Records citation for the world's longest rabbit. Rabbits of his type are known to weigh about 15 to 20 pounds (7 to 9 kilograms). Owner Annette Edwards, a large-rabbit breeder and model, urged the culprit or culprits to return Darius to his home 160 kilometers (100 miles) northwest of London, saying it was a "very sad day." She initially offered a 1,000 pound (\$1,370) reward, but tweeted Tuesday: "Please Please I am so upset Can you bring my Darius back I am putting the reward up to 2,000 pounds (\$2,748)."

Reigning Mrs. World arrested over onstage melee in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP)—Police in Sri Lanka on Thursday arrested the reigning Mrs. World for pulling the crown off the head of the winner of a Mrs. Sri Lanka beauty pageant and allegedly causing injuries. She was later released on bail. Caroline Jurie, who won the Mrs. World 2020 competition, was accused of hurting Pushpika De Silva, who won the Mrs. Sri Lanka title at a televised pageant held in Colombo on Sunday. Moments after De

Silva won the title, Jurie, who is also Sri Lankan, came on stage and snatched the crown from her, saying she was ineligible because she was divorced. Jurie then gave the crown to the first-runner up, declaring she was the winner. In a statement on her Facebook page, De Silva denied being divorced. "Being apart is one. Divorce is something else. I'm still an un-divorced woman," she wrote. Police spokesman Ajith Rohana said police received a complaint from De Silva that she suffered injuries when her crown was removed.

Science & Technology

TECH Q&A: Pros and cons of downsized 'Windows 10 in S mode'

By **STEVE ALEXANDER**

Star Tribune (Minneapolis)



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Q: To get a lower price, I purchased a new laptop with Windows 10 running in "S mode." I understand that S mode is supposed to be more secure, but that my software choices are limited. (I also know I can upgrade to full Windows 10, but I'm not sure this PC could handle it.) But I'm still trying to figure out security. How can I do a manual antivirus scan? Will the Microsoft Edge browser protect me while I'm online?

A: Microsoft changed a few rules in its Windows 10 operating system when it introduced S mode, a downsized version of Windows 10 that typically comes on a PC costing less than \$300. While S mode is still Windows 10, it does a lot less. But, if you are willing to compromise on performance to get a less expensive computer, it's an acceptable basic PC. Here are some of the differences between Windows 10 and Windows 10 running in S mode:

■ Operating system upgrades. You are allowed to upgrade Windows 10 in S mode to full Windows 10 Home for free — but once you have made the switch, you can't go back. Why does this matter? Microsoft lists the same computer system requirements for both operating systems, but the S mode version is the one that will run well on a minimally equipped, sub-\$300 PC. So, if you upgrade to full Windows 10 (see tinyurl.com/mw7m4764), your PC will run slower.

■ Advantages. Besides the fact it will run on a low-cost PC, Windows 10 in S mode is supposed to have the advantages of speed, energy-efficiency and more protection against viruses. But the truth is, you only get those benefits as a result of the operating system's limitations.

For example, S mode is faster and more energy-efficient because it runs far few-

er types of programs than full Windows 10 does, and uses a less-sophisticated computer. It's more secure because you are limited to using only apps from Microsoft, which promptly fixes security flaws in its own software. (Microsoft has borrowed this concept from Apple. The iPhone operating system is safe because all its apps come from either Apple or its App Store, where Apple enforces security standards.)

■ Software. Even though your software choices are limited to Microsoft apps, that's not all bad. The latest version of the Edge browser is about as safe as Google's widely used Chrome browser, and the Windows Security program is quite effective. (Your problem with the antivirus scan stems from the reduced functionality of S mode. Microsoft gave it fewer options for manually controlling security, so you probably can't initiate a scan of your PC.)

■ Given its limitations, who is S mode really for? Microsoft aimed it at the budget computer market, which consists largely of schools. There, S mode competes against another limited-function computer, the Google Chromebook, which starts at less than \$300 but can cost more.

Q: I like to play MP4 video files that I receive via e-mail. Is there a way to play a video file in Gmail, instead of downloading it to my PC to play on a Windows 10 video player program?

A: You can watch video in Gmail by downloading "Gmail Mod" (mod stands for modification.) It's an add-on program for the Google Chrome (see tinyurl.com/5vxushjx) or Mozilla Firefox (see tinyurl.com/yp62k6vk) browsers. Gmail Mod plays four video file formats (including MP4), plus three audio file formats.

FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY

†Antonio Cepeda Tomokane

We, the family would like to invite our relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we remember the passing of our beloved one.

Daily mass of intentions will be offered at Kristo Rai Church at 6:00 a.m. on Monday, April 19, 2021 through April 26, 2021. On the final day, Tuesday, April 27th mass will be celebrated at 9:00 a.m. followed by his Military Honors ceremony at the CNMI Veterans Cemetery.

Your presence, thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Thank you and Si Yu'us Ma'ase

Jovita Blanco Tomokane
& Family



Life & Style

Ralph Lauren unveils crisp white Team USA Olympic uniforms

NEW YORK (AP)—With a crisp white graphic look and roomy pockets, the uniforms to be worn by Team USA at the closing ceremony of the Tokyo Olympics were unveiled Wednesday by official outfitter Ralph Lauren.

The uniforms, along with Ralph Lauren-designed Olympic Village attire for the American athletes, had been ready to go when the Games were postponed last summer due to the pandemic.

"It seems like we're all go now," David Lauren, the company's chief branding and innovation officer, told The Associated Press ahead of the reveal. "They had been designed, produced and ready to roll."

The Games are now scheduled to open July 23 and end Aug. 8 as organizers continue to figure out how to hold them with the pandemic still raging and just 100 days to go. In the meantime, Ralph Lauren is ready with opening and closing parade gear for the more than 600 Team USA athletes, those participating in the Paralympics and Olympic-themed items for sale to the public.

Opening ceremony uniforms will be unveiled in July. Lauren, the son of the fashion giant's founder, said sustainability was top of mind this Olympic go around.

Ralph Lauren, which has been outfitting Team USA since 2008, worked with Dow on a cotton pre-treatment



Athletes Daryl Homer (Fencing), left, Jordyn Barratt (Skateboard) and Heimana Reynolds (Skateboard) participate in the Team USA Tokyo Olympic closing ceremony uniform unveiling at the Ralph Lauren SoHo Store on April 13, 2021, in New York. **AP**

dyeing process that uses less water, chemicals and energy than more traditional meth-

ods. The process was used for a navy Polo shirt each athlete will receive.

A leather alternative using plant-based materials and agriculture byproducts free of synthetic plastics was used for a patch on the closing ceremony's white stretch denim pant, which is made of U.S.-grown cotton. And like the lightweight drawstring jacket, a striped red, white and blue belt to be worn by the athletes is derived partially from recycled plastic bottles.

The patches are already a keepsake of the historic Olympic delay: They say "Team USA" with the year 2020 printed in red.

The zip jackets in white include navy collars and hoods,

and striped red, white and blue cuffs. An American flag patch is on one arm and "USA" is on the other, the latter also down one pant leg. The athletes will wear a classic white Polo shirt, white sneakers with a stripe design and navy masks also made of American cotton. The uniforms were made in the United States.

The company's Olympic retail collection will be available for purchase beginning Wednesday on Ralphlauren.com and in June at select Ralph Lauren retail stores, select U.S. department stores and online at TeamUSAShop.com. All revenue supports Team USA.

Italian TV host apologizes for gestures mimicking Asians

MILAN (AP)—A Swiss-Italian television host apologized Wednesday for mimicking Asians on a satirical TV program after her actions drew protests on social media.

"I am truly sorry and I apologize if I hurt anybody," Michelle Hunziker said in English in a video posted on Instagram. "I realize we are in a time when people are sensitive about their rights, and I have been so naïve not to take that into consideration."

She added: "I am the furthest thing from racist."

Hunziker and co-host Gerry Scotti made slanted-eye gestures and mimicked an Asian accent on the TV show "Striscia la Notizia" ("The News Crawls") aired

by the private Italian network Mediaset.

In her Instagram post, Hunziker acknowledged the U.S.-based content producers behind the fashion watchdog account Diet Prada, who along with bloggers living in Italy had called out the gestures as racist.

Hunziker is married to Tomaso Trussardi, chairman of Trussardi fashion house.

Last week, a Black Lives Matters protest was held outside the Rome studios of Italy's RAI state television over on-air racist language and the use of blackface on one show. Another round of protests targeted Hunziker and Scotti for laughing at a skit on their show that used racist language to describe African children.

Queen returns to royal duties after death of Prince Philip

LONDON (AP)—Queen Elizabeth II has returned to royal duties, four days after the death of her husband, Prince Philip, as preparations stepped up on Wednesday for his ceremonial funeral on the weekend.

The 94-year-old British monarch attended a retirement ceremony for a senior royal official on Tuesday,

according to the Court Circular, the official record of royal engagements.

The royal family is observing two weeks of mourning for Philip, who died Friday at the age of 99. The palace has said family members will "undertake engagements appropriate to the circumstances" during the mourning period.

The family also released previously unseen photos as they shared memories of Philip. One photo shows the queen and Philip surrounded by seven of their great-grandchildren at a family gathering in 2018. The picture, which shows the queen holding a baby Prince Louis in her lap, is a rare image of the monarch holding one of her great-

grandchildren.

The queen attended a ceremony at Windsor Castle for Lord Chamberlain Earl Peel, who has retired as the royal household's most senior official. He oversaw arrangements for the funeral of Philip, also known as the Duke of Edinburgh, until handing over to his successor days before the duke's death.

'The Bachelor' star Colton Underwood comes out as gay

Colton Underwood, the former football tight end who found fame on "The Bachelor," has revealed that he is gay.

"I've ran from myself for a long time. I've hated myself for a long time," Underwood told "Good Morning America" on Wednesday. "And I'm gay. And I came to terms with that earlier this year and have been processing it. And the

next step in all of this was sort of letting people know."

Underwood tried out briefly for a handful of NFL teams before his professional football career ended in 2016. Three years later, he won over Cassie Randolph on Season 23 of "The Bachelor," a show centered on a



Underwood

single bachelor who is asked to select a wife from a pool of romantic interests. Underwood and Randolph never married.

"Every LGBTQ person's journey to discovering and accepting their authentic self is different, and Colton Underwood's decision to share his

truth with the public reminds us that there is no set timeline for coming out," said Anthony Allen Ramos, head of talent for GLAAD.

"Given the large and loyal fandom who know Colton from 'The Bachelor,' his coming out and discussion of his faith will hopefully open eyes to the millions of out and proud LGBTQ people who are also people of faith."

Accusations fly after friend develops COVID-19

DEAR ABBY: A friend of 35 years recently accused me of exposing her and her mother to COVID. She told me she thinks I did it on purpose because I thought so little of them. This is not true!

I had been home for eight days and saw her on a Friday. The following Wednesday I felt sick, so I got tested. When my test the next Monday came back positive, I told her immediately. Since then she has blocked me and won't talk to me to figure out what happened. I don't even know if they got sick.

We have been good friends and helped each other often. I have done a lot for her, but she still refuses to talk to me. What should I do?

BLOCKED BY COVID IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR BLOCKED: When people are frightened, they sometimes act emotionally instead of rationally. A problem with COVID is that people can be infected, without symptoms, and spread the virus without becoming sick (yet) themselves. This is why mask-wearing and social-distancing are so important. From your description, this may be what happened in your case.

Give your friend time to cool off and continue trying to reach out to her. Then hope that in light of your long friendship, she'll calm down and you can reconnect.

DEAR ABBY: My ex and I were together 17 years. He was a cheater, a liar, and any other way a horrible husband can be described. I divorced him six years ago.

My problem is a few of our kids think he's a wonderful guy. The older one (25) lived with him until a few months ago. I don't know how to make her understand how horrible he is. I think if she stepped back for a while, she would see it, but she (and several of his other kids) have been completely brainwashed.

She's very quick to ask a question, but when I respond in a way she feels is negative about her dad, she suddenly has to hang up or needs to go do something. I'm lost trying to make her see how their part of the family looks like a cult to everyone else in the family.

KNOWS THE TRUTH IN OHIO

DEAR KNOWS: Trying to reason with your daughter is a waste of time. Trying to "deprogram" your children from the "cult" of loving their father isn't working, so quit trying. By persisting, you will only drive a wedge between you. As you stated, once they have stepped back, they may begin to see the light without help from you. Let it happen on its own.

DEAR ABBY: I've never seen you answer a question like mine. I have a \$20 bill that was torn. At some point, the two

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



halves became separated in my pocket, and I lost one of them. Is there any way I could get value for the half that I still have?

POOR IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR POOR: I'm sorry, but the answer is probably no. If you had three-quarters of the bill, you could take it to a bank and exchange it for a whole bill. But because you have only half, you are out of luck. Sorry!

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



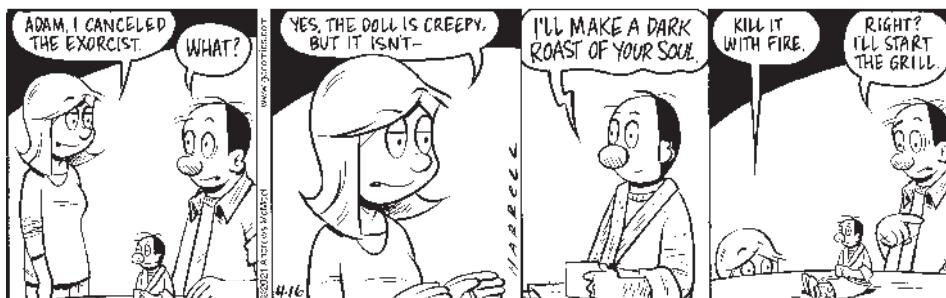
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

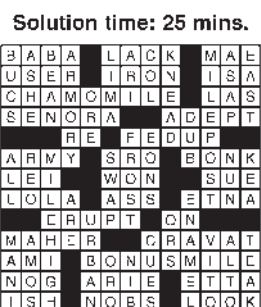
By Glenn McCoy



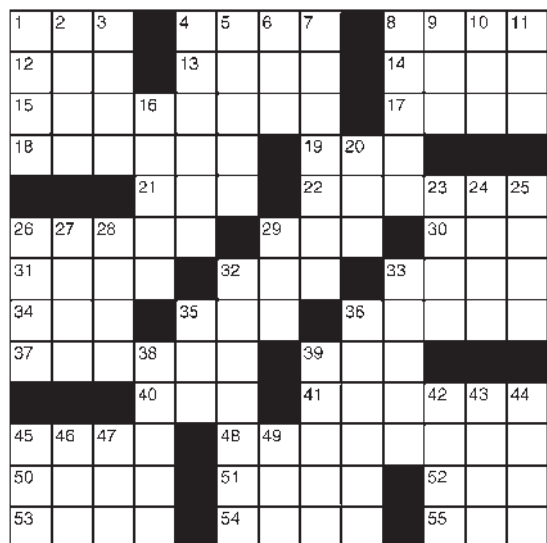
CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 "Pyg-malion" mono-gram
4 Hot tubs
8 Short cuts
12 100%
13 Highly-rated
14 Spoken
15 "Just be patient"
17 — Martin (cognac)
18 Exit
19 Links org.
21 Scot's denial
22 Flower part
26 Partner of aches
29 Baton Rouge sch.
30 Salt Lake athlete
31 Bohemian
32 Obtained
33 Early auto-maker
34 Actor Billy — Williams
35 Superman foe Luthor
36 BLT
- DOWN**
- bread
37 Biblical strong fellow
39 Shriver of tennis
40 Coloration
41 — corps
45 Scottish slope
48 Furious
50 Swiss river
51 "Legally Blonde" role
52 201, in old Rome
53 Cinch
54 Scratched (out)
55 Klutz
- 1 "Mercy Mercy Me" singer Marvin
2 Online journal
3 Insult
4 Dips for chips
5 Sheriff's group
6 Hydrocarbon suffix
7 Ignore, as one's faults
8 Sacha Baron Cohen role
9 Raw rock
10 "Kapow!"
11 Devious
16 Comedian
17 Bruce Jordan
20 Wilde-beest
23 Luau
24 LAX postings
25 Take it easy
26 Cushions
27 Geometric calculation
28 Detail
29 Bagel topper
32 River to Lake Ontario
33 Pizzazz
35 Singer Rawls
36 Took a bite
38 Bo Peep's charges
39 "Us" director
42 Puerto — Peruvian
44 Pre-weekend yell
45 Some coll. degrees
46 Scooted
47 Palindromic constellation
49 Caribou kin



Yesterday's answer 4-16



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jon Cryer, 56; Martin Lawrence, 56; Ellen Barkin, 67; Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, 74.

Happy Birthday: Explore your options, find your passion and discover your talents and attributes. Turn something you love to do into a moneymaking venture. Think outside the box, and you'll discover you have what it takes to transform your life into something that makes you want to give your all. Focus on happiness, love, health and being the best you can be. Your numbers are 2, 16, 23, 26, 30, 38, 44.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Get involved in something you care about, and it will lead to a new beginning. Be the pioneer that you long to be, and delve into something that excites you. Indulge in an adventure that lifts your spirit and soothes your soul. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Make sure you have your facts or instructions in order before you proceed. A physical or health issue will prevail if you don't take steps to resolve the problem swiftly. Taking care of others is honorable, but take care of yourself first. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Listen carefully, stick to the truth and don't take a risk that will jeopardize your reputation. Look at the possibilities, and put paperwork that will help you achieve your goal in place. Educational pursuits will lead to new beginnings. ★★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Leave nothing to chance. Develop your plans carefully. Exaggeration will backfire when someone questions what you are doing. ★★★★★

Moderation and patience will help you work your way to concrete results. Don't let an emotional incident consume you. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Work alongside people who share your beliefs and concerns. Stick to a realistic plan that allows you to show off your intelligence and ability to get things done on time and within budget. Consider a partnership proposal carefully. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Keep your goal in mind when asked to take on additional responsibilities. Emotional tactics will put you in an awkward position. Weigh the pros and cons, and don't be afraid to say no to someone trying to take advantage of you. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): View a problem from every angle. To make the most of a situation and feel good about your contribution, it's best to make suggestions instead of offering your time or money. A change of scenery will encourage a lifestyle change. ★★★★★

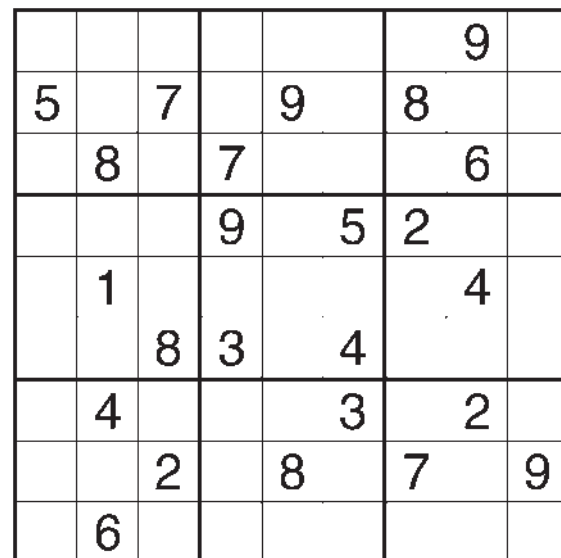
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Hang on to your cash. Don't get involved in a joint venture or invest in someone's plan. Make a change that is within budget and offers a new lease on life. Put your health, well-being and peace of mind first. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You'll have plenty of opportunities to bring about change. Focus on partnerships that contribute to the lifestyle you want to live. Engage in pastimes that are exciting and adventuresome and push you to be and do your best. Don't fight what's obvious. ★★★★★

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



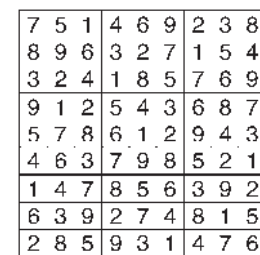
Difficulty Level ★★★★★

4/16

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer



Difficulty Level: ★★★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Say less and do more. If you are too accommodating, someone will take advantage of you. Put more emphasis on what will ease stress, make you happy and encourage a positive outcome. Refuse to take on responsibilities that don't belong to you. ★★★★★



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Spend time with loved ones, fix up your space or pursue something you enjoy doing. Something good will transpire. Don't take a risk with your health or cash. Stick to the rules and regulations, and avoid spending impulsively. ★★★★★



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't take on anything or anyone you can't handle. Protect against physical or financial dealings that can put you in a difficult position. Rely on what you know you can do, and don't make promises you cannot keep. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are engaging, intense and resourceful. You are persistent and demonstrative.

★: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ★★: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ★★★: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ★★★★: Aim high; start new projects. ★★★★★: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

BILLIE EILISH (SINGER)

Solution: 8 letters

A S A W A R D S T R A H C E L
M C A N A E C O T E C Y P V L
S D O E B F S E L T I T L I E
Y S R U N I E E A A I R A L N
N C T O S N C W Y V I N Y L N
D I R E C T I N G K P I A N O
R R C F R E I F U C S O M G C
O Y O O E R R C C I S U M F O
M L P I N S T A G R A M H R D
E O Y A T C T N I T S U J I V
P B C R P O D I L A H K D E I
A F A N S P U A V P L N T N D
R C T I U E L R N A A B D D E
K E T A R I P E R C L I U S O
B O R E D D E S E Y E G A M I

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Acoustic, Album, Apple, Awards, Baird, Bored, Candid, Charts, Copycat, Dance, Debut, Directing, Electropop, Eyes, Fans, Festival, FINNEAS, Friends, Husky, Image, Indie, Instagram, Interscope, Justin, Khalid, Live, Lyrics, Music, Ocean, O'Connell, Park, Patrick, Piano, Pirate, Play, Record, RIAA, Song, Syndrome, Teen, Titles, Tour, Track, Video, Vinyl, Watch
Yesterday's Answer: Officers
Jo's Jewels Collector's Edition is back by popular demand! Purchase online at www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480.

Rodón no-hits Indians after losing perfect game bid in 9th



CHICAGO
(AP)—Car-

los Rodón threw the second no-hitter of the young baseball season Wednesday night, losing his bid for a perfect game on a hit batter with one out in the ninth inning, and the Chicago White Sox cruised to an 8-0 victory over the Cleveland Indians.

The left-hander retired his first 25 batters before he plunked Roberto Pérez on the back foot with an 0-2 slider. An incredulous Rodón looked on almost in bewilderment as Pérez made his way to first.

Rodón (2-0) regained his composure in time to strike out Yu Chang looking and retire Jordan Luplow on a sharp grounder to third, starting a joyous celebration.

It was the first no-hitter for the White Sox since Lucas Giolito pitched one Aug. 25 last year against Pittsburgh and No. 20 in franchise history, second-most among major league teams behind the Los Angeles Dodgers (23).

Rodón's gem came just five days after Joe Musgrove threw a no-hitter for his hometown Padres at Texas.

Rodón threw 75 of his 114 pitches for strikes. He struck out seven in his first career shutout and second complete game.

The closest call for Rodón and the White Sox occurred when Josh Naylor led off the ninth with a slow bouncer. First baseman José Abreu picked it up and got his toe on the bag just ahead of a sliding Naylor.

Zach Plesac (1-2) took the loss, recording just two outs in the first.

Red Sox 3, Twins 2, 1st game Red Sox 7, Twins 1, 2nd game

In Minneapolis, Alex Verdugo had three hits, including a two-run single in a six-run fifth inning, and the Boston extended its winning streak to nine games, sweeping a doubleheader against Philadelphia.

In the second game, Eduardo Rodríguez (2-0) pitched five innings and gave up one run on five hits for Boston, which has come from behind in six of its nine wins this season. The Red Sox have their longest winning streak since a 10-game run in 2018, a season that ended with a World Series title.

Verdugo had five hits in the doubleheader and capped the day with his second homer of the season in the seventh inning.

José Berrios (2-1) surrendered four runs in 4 1/3 innings for Minnesota, giving up four hits and three walks. Berrios walked Franchy Cordero with the bases loaded for the first run of the fifth before departing.



^{AP}
Boston Red Sox center fielder Franchy Cordero (16) jumps to celebrate with teammates right fielder Enrique Hernandez (5) and center fielder Alex Verdugo (99) after defeating the Minnesota Twins in the second baseball game of a doubleheader, Wednesday, April 14, 2021, in Minneapolis.

grove in his first start since throwing the first no-hitter in franchise history.

Polanco hit a solo shot into the right-field stands in the second inning. That ended a 32-inning scoreless streak by Musgrove that dated to last season when he was still with the Pirates.

Musgrove (2-1) allowed only one run in four innings but was lifted for a pinch-hitter after his pitch count reached to 81.

Tyler Anderson (1-2) gave up one run in 5 1/3 innings to get his first win with the Pirates. The left-hander gave up one run and four hits with two strikeouts and two walks.

Mets 5, Phillies 1

In New York, David Peterson matched a career high with 10 strikeouts in six dominant innings and batterymate James McCann hit his first home run with New York, sending the Mets past Philadelphia for their third straight win.

McCann had three hits, including a two-run homer in the eighth. Brandon Nimmo and Dominic Smith also got three hits apiece, and Francisco Lindor scored twice.

Peterson (1-1) outpitched former Mets starter Zack Wheeler (1-2), allowing only two hits and rebounding nicely from a rough outing in Philadelphia last week.

Three relievers finished a three-hitter for New York. Aaron Loup got five outs and Edwin Díaz fanned two in a perfect ninth against the meat of the Phillies' order.

Tigers 6, Astros 4

In Houston, Michael Fulmer earned his first win since 2018 and Detroit built a big lead before holding off short-handed Houston for a three-game sweep.

Outscored 14-4 in losing the first two games with a full roster, the Astros went into the wrapup after putting five players, including stars José Altuve, Alex Bregman and Yordan Álvarez, on the COVID-19 injured list.

Jeimer Candelario had three hits and two RBIs for Tigers, who took advantage of a wild performance by Lance McCullers Jr. (1-1) to pile up six runs in four innings with only a double and a smattering of singles.

Fulmer (1-0) yielded three hits and two runs over five innings.

The Twins have lost five straight.

In the first game, Nathan Eovaldi (2-1) gave up two runs on five hits in five innings for the Red Sox. Matt Barnes earned his second save.

Kenta Maeda (1-1) was undone by Minnesota's defense in the second inning, including his own throwing error that allowed a run to score. He pitched 4 1/3 innings and gave up three runs — two earned — on seven hits and two walks.

Dodgers 4, Rockies 2

In Los Angeles, Justin Turner homered and drove in two runs, and rookie Zach McKinstry added a late homer as Los Angeles beat Colorado for its fifth consecutive victory.

Luke Raley got his first career hit in the eighth inning for the major league-leading Dodgers, who have won 10 of 11 while remaining unbeaten in their past 11 games at Dodger Stadium since last Sept. 23.

C.J. Cron slowed his slump with two hits for the Rockies, who lost their fifth straight despite snapping their 26-inning scoreless streak since last Saturday with Trevor Story's RBI single in the fifth. Colorado couldn't score in the final four innings against Los Angeles' bullpen.

Victor González escaped a jam in the fifth after the Rockies chased Dustin May. Corey Knebel (1-0) retired the side on six pitches in the eighth, and Kenley Jansen got three strikeouts for his third save.

Colorado manager Bud Black was ejected in the third inning for arguing with plate umpire Phil Cuzzi from the dugout after a few close ball-strike calls went against the Rockies early.

Jon Gray (1-1) yielded five hits and three runs in a four-in-

ning start for the Rockies after taking a no-hitter into the seventh inning of his last outing.

Marlins 6, Braves 5, 10 innings

In Atlanta, Jesus Aguilar drove in the winning run with a 10th-inning double and Miami overcame two homers by Ronald Acuña Jr. for its third straight win at Atlanta.

Leading off in extra innings with Starling Marte placed at second, Aguilar dumped a low pitch from Tyler Matzek (0-1) down the left-field line to bring home the tiebreaking run.

Acuña led off the bottom of the 10th with a chance to do more damage after erasing Miami's 5-0 lead almost single-handedly. But Yimi Garcia struck out the Atlanta slugger on three pitches before retiring Freddie Freeman and Marcell Ozuna to earn his second save.

John Curtiss (1-0) picked up the win with a scoreless ninth.

Blue Jays 5, Yankees 4

In Dunedin, Fla., Bo Bichette homered twice, including a game-ending drive leading off the ninth inning that lifted Toronto over New York.

Bichette drove a pitch from Chad Green (0-2) the opposite way to right-center field as Toronto took two of three from its AL East rival.

Alejandro Kirk also homered for the Blue Jays. Rafael Dolis (1-0) worked the ninth to get the win.

Aaron Judge hit two home runs for the Yankees.

Brewers 7, Cubs 0

In Milwaukee, Corbin Burnes struck out 10 in six dominant innings and also delivered a two-run single for his first career RBIs as Milwaukee beat Chicago.

Burnes (1-1) allowed just two hits to continue his sizzling start to the season. His bases-loaded single up the middle capped the Brewers' four-run outburst in the sixth.

Jackie Bradley Jr. doubled to lead off the first against Jake Arrieta (2-1) and scored on Travis Shaw's single. Shaw moved to third on Avisail Garcia's double and came home on Omar Narváez's sacrifice fly.

Shaw extended the lead to 3-0 with a homer to left center in the third.

Nationals 6, Cardinals 0

In St. Louis, Joe Ross pitched six sharp innings and Washington threw its first regular-season shutout at St. Louis.

Ross (1-0) improved to 3-0 in four career starts against the Cardinals. He allowed four hits, struck out five and walked one. He also singled and scored a run.

Four relievers combined to hold St. Louis hitless the rest of the way.

Ryan Zimmerman hit his first homer of the season, a two-run drive in the third off Adam Wainwright (0-2).

Giants 3, Reds 0

In San Francisco, Johnny Cueto pitched neatly into the sixth inning before exiting with a tight lat muscle, and San Francisco finished off Cincinnati.

Cueto (2-0) removed himself from the game after fanning Nick Castellanos for the second out in the sixth. The 35-year-old Cueto surrendered three hits and walked none while striking out four.

San Francisco scored twice in the fifth off Tyler Mahle (1-1).

Austin Slater doubled to right-center field on an 0-2 pitch to score Brandon Craw-

ford. Slater advanced to third base on a passed ball and scored on Curt Casali's grounder.

Royals 6, Angels 1

In Kansas City, Mo., Salvador Pérez homered and doubled to cap off an impressive series, leading Brad Keller and Kansas City past Los Angeles.

Pérez drove in two runs and went 8 for 12 with four RBIs this week against Los Angeles.

Carlos Santana also homered as the Royals took two of three from the Angels.

Keller (1-1) went 5 2/3 innings and gave up one run and four hits, striking out five and walking one.

Griffin Canning (0-1) went five innings and permitted two runs and six hits.

Rangers 5, Rays 1

In St. Petersburg, Fla., Nate Lowe hit a solo homer and rookie Kohei Aihara got his first major league victory, pitching into the sixth inning as Texas beat Tampa Bay.

Aihara (1-1) allowed two singles and a double over 5 2/3 scoreless innings in his third start since signing with the Rangers after six seasons with the Hokkaido Nippon-Ham Fighters of Japan's Pacific League.

Lowe went deep against ex-teammate Josh Fleming (0-1) for a 1-0 lead the Rangers clung to until David Dahl's two-run double and Adolis Garcia's two-run triple broke it open in the seventh.

Aihara struck out five and walked none before being replaced by John King.

Pirates 5, Padres 1

In Pittsburgh, Gregory Polanco homered and Pittsburgh beat San Diego's Joe Mus-

Westbrook posts 24th triple-double of season in Wizards' win



SACRAMENTO (AP)—Russell Westbrook recorded his 170th career triple-double, Bradley Beal scored 31 points, and the Washington Wizards ended their longest road trip of the season by beating the Sacramento Kings 123-111 on Wednesday night.

Westbrook had 25 points, 11 assists and 15 rebounds for his sixth consecutive triple-double and the 24th of the season. Oscar Robertson holds the NBA record for career triple-doubles with 181. "He's the elite at attacking," Wizards coach Scott Brooks said. "It's extraordinary and he brings it every night. The people that criticize him, the analytics guys, they obviously don't play the game or understand the game. I love how he plays."

Beal shot 10 of 22 and had his 25th 30-point game this season.

Davis Bertans added 16 points as Washington finished 4-2 on its road trip.

"We just know each other better," said Deni Avdija, who had 11 points. "Our chemistry is better from the beginning of the season. Everybody knows his role. We're in a good position right now."

De'Aaron Fox scored 33 points for the Kings, who have lost eight straight.

The Wizards had fun with this one. Washington scored 42 points in the first quarter, including an early 3-pointer by Beal, who smiled and playfully wagged his tongue at the Wizards' bench as he ran down the court.

"It was a tough travel trip," Brooks said. "Started off in Florida and ended up in California with a few other states in between. I thought we played pretty solid."

Fox scored six points in 30 seconds to pull Sacramento within 82-76 midway through the third, but the Kings stalled after that.

Westbrook got his triple-double early in the fourth, when he dished to Bertans for a 3-pointer that made it 107-91.

The Wizards got some help from the Kings in the fourth quarter. Sacramento was called for four technical fouls in the period, including two for delay of game. Coach Luke Walton was hit with one in the final two minutes.

"It gets frustrating sometimes," Walton said. "It's probably more frustrating because of how we're playing right now. That's what we can control. We can't control the other stuff. We have to clean up our own side of the street before we start complaining about others."



SACRAMENTO Kings guard De'Aaron Fox (5) defends Washington Wizards guard Russell Westbrook (4) as he looks to make a play during the second quarter of an NBA basketball game in Sacramento, Calif., Wednesday, April 14, 2021.

Cavaliers 103, Hornets 90

In Charlotte, N.C., Jarrett Allen felt better than he expected in his first game since March 26.

"I thought I'd be sluggish and a step behind everybody," Allen said. "But I scored the first basket on a dunk and it just went from there."

Taurean Prince scored a season-high 25 points with six 3-pointers, Allen had 15 points and eight rebounds and the Cleveland Cavaliers handed the Charlotte Hornets their third straight loss at home Wednesday night, 103-90.

Kevin Love added 17 points and 11 rebounds as Cleveland (20-34) snapped a two-game skid and walked away with a renewed level of confidence.

Knicks 116, Pelicans 106

In New Orleans, Julius Randle hit contested mid-range shots, at times while fading away from the basket, as the fourth quarter wound down.

When Zion Williamson tried to answer, he ran into a wall of defenders in front of the rim, and his Pelicans teammates couldn't shoot well enough from outside to make the Knicks pay for packing the paint.

Randle scored 32 points against his former team and the Knicks clamped down defensively on Williamson for a 116-106 victory over New Orleans on Wednesday night.

Reserve guard Alec Burks scored New York's first 11 points of the fourth quarter, added a crushing 3 and finished with 21 points for the Knicks, who've won four straight for the first time this season.

Pacers 132, Rockets 124

In Houston, Caris LeVert scored 27 points, Domantas Sabonis added 22 and Malcolm Brogdon fell just short of a triple-double as the Indiana Pacers beat the Houston Rockets 132-124 on Wednesday night.

LeVert was involved in the blockbuster January trade that sent James Harden from Houston to Brooklyn and Victor Oladipo from Indiana to Houston. While Oladipo struggled during his brief tenure in Houston, LeVert has starred with the Pacers, scoring at least 20 points in five of his last seven games.

Sabonis was dominant in the paint, making 10 of 18 shots from the field while also grabbing 11 rebounds and adding seven assists.

Brogdon fell one assist shy of his second career triple-double and his first since his rookie season in 2016-2017. He had 23 points, nine assists and 14 rebounds, one shy of his career high.

Warriors 147, Thunder 109

In Oklahoma City, Stephen Curry scored 25 of his 42 points in the third quarter, and the Golden State Warriors ran away from the Oklahoma City Thunder 147-109 on Wednesday night.

Curry went 8 for 8 from the field and made all six of his 3-point attempts in the third quarter to post his high point total for a quarter this season. He was coming off a 53-point game against the Denver Nuggets on Monday that made him the franchise's career scoring leader. He followed it by making 11 of 16 3-pointers and 14 of 20 shots overall.

Draymond Green had a triple-double with 12 points, 16 assists and 10 rebounds for the Warriors. It was his fourth triple-double this season and the 28th of his career. He fueled a Golden State offense that matched a franchise record with 24 3-pointers.

Bucks 130, Timberwolves 105

In Minneapolis, Khris Middleton had 27 points, eight rebounds and seven assists in three quarters, as the Milwaukee Bucks breezed to a 130-105 victory over the Minnesota Timberwolves on Wednesday.

Brook Lopez added 18 points and eight rebounds, Jrue Holiday pitched in 15 points and three steals, and the Bucks built a lead as big as 30 points early in the fourth quarter on the way to their second consecutive blowout. After losing six of nine games, the Bucks beat Orlando 124-87 on Sunday.

The Bucks played without the two-time reigning NBA Most Valuable Player award winner, Giannis Antetokounmpo, because of left knee

soreness for the sixth straight game. They're 3-3 without him in this stretch.

Anthony Edwards scored 24 points on 5-for-11 shooting from 3-point range for the Timberwolves, who have lost 11 of their past 15 games.

76ers 123, Nets 117

In Philadelphia, the Nets played without starters from the opening tip. The 76ers tried to rest theirs in the fourth quarter.

But with Brooklyn's deep reserves making it a game late between the two top teams in the East, Ben Simmons and Joel Embiid checked in to bail out the checked-out Sixers.

Embiid had 39 points and 13 rebounds and Philadelphia beat Brooklyn 123-117 on Wednesday night in an anticipated matchup that fizzled with the Nets missing their biggest stars.

Kyrie Irving scored 23 points in the first half—his eighth 20-point first half of the season—and finished with 37 points. Irving missed Tuesday's game against Minnesota for personal reasons. Irving, though, sat out as the deep reserves helped the Nets rally from 22 points down to make it 118-115 with 1:15 left.

Clippers 100, Pistons 98

In Detroit, Reggie Jackson and Luke Kennard both spoke highly of their time in Detroit.

Small consolation for the Pistons after those two led the undermanned Los Angeles Clippers to a remarkable victory in Motown.

Jackson sank a jumper with 2.3 seconds left against his former team, giving the Clippers their seventh straight victory, 100-98 over Detroit on Wednesday night. The Clip-

pers rallied from an 11-point deficit in the fourth quarter despite playing without several key players.

Kawhi Leonard, Paul George, Serge Ibaka, Patrick Beverley and Marcus Morris were all out for Los Angeles.

The Clippers trailed by five in the final minute, but Terance Mann made it 98-95 with a dunk, and after Detroit's Jerami Grant turned the ball over near midcourt, Jackson connected from 3-point range to tie it with 19.0 seconds left.

Raptors 117, Spurs 112

In Tampa, Fla., OG Anunoby scored 22 points, Pascal Siakam had 20 points and 11 rebounds and the short-handed Toronto Raptors beat the San Antonio Spurs 117-112 on Wednesday night.

The Raptors had to go big because they were almost out of guards, and it worked in their favor. Anunoby moved down to the two-guard spot, and the Raptors got good production from newcomers Khem Birch and Eddie Giles at the big positions.

Birch had 14 points and six rebounds in his first start for Toronto, which enjoyed a 54-42 rebound advantage.

Gillespie contributed nine points, eight assists and three blocks in 19 minutes.

"Every coach made it clear that they wanted rim protection, and that's what I'm trying to give them," said Gillespie, who is playing on a 10-day contract.

Nuggets 123, Heat 106

In Denver, Nikola Jokic had 17 points, 11 assists and 10 rebounds for his 15th triple-double of the season to lead the Denver Nuggets over the Miami Heat 123-106 on Wednesday night.

Michael Porter Jr. added 25 points and 10 rebounds for the Nuggets. Six Denver players scored in double figures in the team's first game without Jamal Murray, who is out for the rest of the season.

Murray was hurt in the final minute of Monday's loss at Golden State when he planted his left foot to go up for a layup. An MRI confirmed an ACL tear and dealt Denver's title hopes a serious blow.

Mavericks 114, Grizzlies 113

In Memphis, Tenn., Luka Doncic hit a leaning, lunging 3-pointer as time expired to give the Dallas Mavericks a 114-113 victory over the Memphis Grizzlies on Wednesday night.

Doncic ended the night with 29 points, while Kristaps Porzingis added 21 points. Dwight Powell had 12 points, shooting 6 of 7 from the field.

But it was Doncic's winning shot, falling down just beyond the 3-point line, that sent the Mavericks sprinting down the court as Doncic raised his arms and smiled. Officials reviewed the play, confirming the 3-pointer for Dallas' win rather than sending the game to overtime.

Mavericks coach Rick Carlisle could only express amazement at the ending of a game that was close between two teams jockeying for postseason positioning.

Magic 115, Bulls 106

In Chicago, James Ennis scored 22 points, Wendell Carter Jr. added 19 points and 12 rebounds, and the Orlando Magic snapped a six-game losing streak by beating the Chicago Bulls 115-106 on Wednesday night despite big performances by Zach LaVine and Nikola Vucevic.

The Magic outscored Chicago by 20 in the third quarter to turn a one-point lead into a 93-72 advantage and hung on after Chicago cut it to 104-98. Carter scored on a tip-in and Michael Carter-Williams dunked after stealing a pass from LaVine to make it a 10-point game with 3:12 remaining.

LaVine scored 30. Vucevic had 29 points and 11 rebounds in his first game against the Magic since they dealt the two-time All-Star to Chicago at the deadline. But the Bulls fell to 3-8 since the trade.

Serves up for TSL CNMI Junior Championships this weekend

By MARK RABAGO

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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Tan Siu Lin Foundation has taken the sponsorship cudgels from DFS Galleria in backing the renamed 2021 TSL CNMI Junior Tennis Tournament that will debut this weekend at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association president and CNMI National Tennis coach Jeff Race said the junior championships returns after a yearlong absence due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We missed this tournament, our national championship, last year as everything was locked down in March, so I feel like every tournament is extra important. Also this event

awards the most points and goes a long way in determining who will travel with the junior national team to Guam for the North Pacific Regional Championships, hopefully in July," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

He also thanked TanHoldings CEO Jerry Tan and his wife, Lydia, for sponsoring the 2021 TSL CNMI Junior Tennis Tournament. "This is the first time TSL Foundation has been the sponsor. Jerry and Lydia Tan do so much for our youth and sports community."

For her part, Lydia Tan, who serves as tournament director, said TanHoldings is more than happy to take over sponsoring duties from long-

time supporter DFS Galleria.

"In 2019, DFS was the one who sponsored this tournament and now they are closed. The TanHoldings Tennis Classic was also cancelled last year due to the pandemic. So,

I thought and checked with Jerry if the TSL Foundation could be the sponsor for this year's CNMI Junior Tennis Championship. He said 'yes.' It's not easy to find sponsors since all businesses on island is affected by the pandemic," said Lydia Tan.

The 2021 TSL CNMI Junior Tennis Tournament will be held for two consecutive weekends, April 17 and 18 and April 24 and 25.



Chung



Woo

Lydia Tan said sporting events like the 2021 TSL CNMI Junior Tennis Tournament are crucial to the development of the islands' youth netters. "It is very important to support

the CNMI junior tennis players because they are our future players representing the CNMI in the Micronesian Games, Pacific Games, Mini Games, or the yearly Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji. They could also continue playing college tennis and can get college scholarships."

A total of eight division championships will be at stake in the tournament. The top seed in the boys singles 12 is Si Woo Lee followed by Yutaka Kadokura, Ki Won Lee,

and Nason Wessel.

In the girls singles 12, Hannah Chae and Lina Tsukagoshi are seeded No. 1 and 2, respectively, while June Yu and Wataru Kadokura are the Top 2 players in the boys singles 14.

In the girls singles 14, Irin Chung and Hoo Wang lead the way, while the boys singles 18 is spearheaded by

Ji Min Woo with Sam Ryu, Sean Lee, and Seongeon Heo next in line.

Partners Si Woo Lee and Yutaka Kadokura and Ki Won Lee and Ian Chae are the Top 2 seeds in the boys 12 doubles, while bannering the boys 18 doubles are the teams of Sam Ryu and Woo and Sean Lee and Seongeon Heo. There's also a mini tennis tournament with Seung Woo Lee and Jin Ho Park taking part.

Repairs to Oleai Sports Complex to 'move forward'

By MARK RABAGO

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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Northern Marianas Sports Association executive director Carlene Sablan said plans are afoot to finally begin the needed repairs to the Oleai Sports Complex in time for the CNMI's hosting of the 2022 Pacific Mini Games.

The Oleai Sports Complex houses the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium, the Oleai Track and Field, the Francisco M. Palacios Baseball Field, and the Miguel Basa "Tan Ge" Pangelinan Softball Field.

"The Oleai Sports Complex will be the hub for most sporting events. We have been meeting with governor's authorized representative, Patrick Guerrero, and the Public Assistance Office just about weekly now to move forward

with the needed repairs to our facilities," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune*.

The NMSA executive director also said the CNMI getting the nod in hosting three additional sports in the quadrennial event is a boon to the respective sports federations.

"NMSA is extremely pleased with the Pacific Games Council's decision to include tennis, weightlifting, and va'a to the 2022 Pacific Mini Games event program... We, of course, also would like to thank Gov. Ralph DLG Torres for his support of the Mini Games... We also look forward to the work ahead, bringing everyone together in our community and doing everything possible to deliver the Mini Games successfully," she said.

Northern Marianas National



Sablan

Paddle Sports Federation president Justin Andrew said as they prepare to host the outrigger canoe competition of the Mini Games next year, he anticipates that funding will be needed for the acquisition of

equipment that will make up the bulk of the cost.

"In terms of workload, the federation recognizes the monumental work and expects to work on all throttles firing... it will seek guidance and technical expertise from its national federation and it will collaborate closely with local and regional partners. The federation will closely collaborate and coordinate with the [Pacific Mini Games 2022 Organizing Committee] and NMSA on all its plans for a successful hosting," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

As for qualifying events to choose the paddlers that will

be included in the CNMI National Outrigger Team, Andrew said they are planning a series of competitions to determine its composition.

"Qualifying event programs are being drawn up now and will go into motion in the next few months... It will be one of our busiest years ever. We want to have our national teams before the end of this year and start training ASAP. We are continuously mindful of our economic hardship but fundraising plans will soon be put together and work will start soon," he said.

The 2022 Pacific Mini Games was originally slated for 2021 before it was postponed by the COVID-19 pandemic. It will run from June 17 to 25 next year. Aside from tennis, weightlifting, and va'a, the sports calendar for the 2022 Mini Games also includes athletics, baseball, beach volleyball, golf, triathlon, and badminton.

Frances Sablan tops SGA March Ace

Frances Sablan topped the Saipan Golfers Association March 2021 Ace of the Month Tournament after shooting a net 73 last March 14 at the Coral Ocean Point



Sablan

Golf Course. Sablan scored identical 52s in the front and back nine to finish with a gross of 104, which minus her 31 handicap gave her the month's best score.

Larry Deleon Guerrero actually tied Sablan with his net 73—built around a gross of 90—but lost the March tourney via a scorecard tiebreak. The 90-handicapper registered mirroring scores of 45 and 45 in the front and back nine.

Joe I. Sablan completed the Top 3, one stroke over Sablan and Deleon Guerrero's score with a net 74.

The 27-handicapper came away with a 54 in the first nine holes before shooting a 47 in the final nine for a gross of 101.

In the closest to the pin competition, Jung Eun

Teack won in hole No. 3, Rene Batallones was with-out peer in hole No. 7, while Tony Benavente and Alex Tudela were the winners in holes No. 7 and 14.

Janet Torres topped the longest drive in hole No. 7, while Tony Benavente duplicated the feat in hole No. 18.

The April 2021 SGA Ace of the Month Tournament will be played at the Kingfisher Golf Links in Talafofo on April 18. Tee time is at 9am with a show time of 8:30am. (Mark Rabago)

SCS

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Haberman and Elieisar coming in at 1-2 again with times of 44:43 and 45:06, respectively,

while Sablan was all alone anew in the 12U and crossed the finish line in 44:15. Haberman made it a sweep in the 800m, as she ran alone and completed the

course in 4:04.

In the girls long jump, Lim was the lone participant in the girls 9U and recorded a 2.15m jump. There were no participants in the girls 12U

long jump.

The Public School System All Schools Track and Field Championship is being held in coordination with Northern Marianas Athletics.

LITTLE

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and it will take time and a lot of medical experts' recommendations [before they open up in the States]."

In addition, Borja said according to Keener there will be no waiver on the age bracket for Major, Junior, and Senior leagues. It was the hope of some players, parents, and coaches that due to the pandemic, players who have aged out of their division would be given a waiver to rejoin their teams following the off-year brought about by COVID-19.

At the end of the day, Borja said he's just happy that Saipan has this golden opportunity to restart its Little League program, unlike other parts of the world that are still in lockdown or activities are limited due to the pandemic.

"We're lucky that our task force was able to contain COVID-19 and we only have a few local transmissions that was quickly quelled," he said, adding that they will coordinate closely with the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force on how to go about opening the 2021 season of the Saipan Little League.

As of now, Borja is expecting 16 teams will take part in the opening day parade of the 2021 season.

"[Hopefully] we will have four teams in the minors, four in the majors, four in the junior league, and four in the senior league," he said.

Before the new Little League season unfurls, however, Borja said he wants to mandate all coaches and managers to get vaccinated.

"At Saipan Little League we're dealing with kids from 6 years old to 16 years old and there's still no vaccine for kids. We're dealing with kids so we have to be very, very careful. We will come out with a requirement that all coaches and managers should be vaccinated for the 2021 season," he said.

Borja said he's very optimistic that Saipan will have a Little League season this year.

"One year is already very long not to have a Little League especially next year we will be hosting the Mini Games. We have to revive the Commonwealth's favorite pastime. Baseball is still the CNMI's No. 1 sport. We have to adapt for the kids. We need this type of return to normalcy."

4

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threaten the division-leading team.

Paire continued to breath down TanHoldings' neck after nosing out Kanoa last weekend. Eric Barajas made back-to-back goals for Paire, getting the first one in the 55th minute and the second 13 minutes later to give his team enough cushion. Peter Loken logged the other goal for Paire when he found his target in the 10th minute, while siblings Raphael and Russell Zapanta put Kanoa on the board in the 50th and 77th minute, respectively.

Meanwhile, MP United stayed in fourth place in Division A standings after topping The One FC last Sunday, 3-1.

Skyler Poon led MP United's fourth victory of the season after scoring a pair. He found the back of the net first in the 13th minute and had another conversion 12 minutes later, while Sunjoon Tenorio closed out for MP United with his goal in the 56th minute.

Boaz Soo Hyun Lim scored the lone goal (35th minute) for the winless The One FC.

In other results in the division, the Old B Bank and NMI U18 B engaged in a scoreless draw.

DIVISION B Saipan United 2, Bangladesh FC 1

Saipan United notched win No. 5 and kept the lead in the division after nipping Bangladesh FC last Saturday.

Ichiro Borja handed the pair of goals for Saipan United in the second half with his first registered in the 52nd minute and the last in the 60th. Bangladesh threatened to mount a late comeback when Mohammad Islam scored in the 81st minute, but the team still fell short.

Shirley's 2, Island Star 0

Shirley's moved up to second place after shutting down Is-

land Star last April 6.

Irish Pagarao and Dhiraj Chhetri delivered the goals for Shirley's with the former scoring in the 14minute and the latter in the 30th.

WNT 2, Matansa 1

The NMI Women's Team pulled off a come-from-behind win over Matansa.

Kaithlynn Chavez and Tamia Hix teamed up in giving the WNT the close victory. Chavez made the game-tying goal in the 86th minute, while Hix hit the go-ahead two minutes later. Earlier in the 70th minute, Matansa drew a goal from Juhn Tenorio to boost its chance to get win No. 3 before the WNT stole the game.



**Rodón no-hits
Indians after
losing perfect
game bid in 9th**

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Saipan Tribune Sports

**Serves up for
TSL CNMI Junior
Championships
this weekend**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

4 teams in tight race in M-League



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Matansa Football Club's Junh Tenorio, left, celebrates with teammate John Joson after scoring in the second half of their Division B game against the NMI Women's National Team in the M-League Spring 2021 last Sunday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

TanHoldings Football Club's Martin Jambor, left, takes the penalty shot during their Division A game against the NMI Boys U18 National Team A in the M-League Spring 2021 last April 9 at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

Competition in Division A of the M-League Spring 2021 is getting interesting nearly half way into the season, as the Top 4 squads are bunched up in the team standings.

TanHoldings Football Club is barely clinging to the No. 1 spot with its 5-1-0 win-draw-loss record after settling for a draw against the NMI Boys U18 National Team A during

their April 9 match at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville. TanHoldings, after six games, has earned 16 points, just one marker ahead of Paire, which improved its record to 5-0-1 following a 3-2



triumph over Kanoa last Sunday. At close third with 14 points and 4-2-0 mark is the NMI U18 A, while in fourth place with a 4-0-2 card and 12 points is MP United.

TanHoldings avoided ab-

sorbing its first loss of the season when Martin Jambor delivered the equalizer in the 76th minute. Earlier in the 63rd minute, Kaden Church scored for the NMI U18 A to

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Little League season to start in May

By **MARK RABAGO**
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Saipan Little League scrapped its 2020 season but with the availability of vaccines and with no local transmission on island, Little League president Mike Borja said he's giving the go-signal to start the 2021 season next month.

There's only one catch though, as according to Borja, this year's Little League season will only be CNMI-wide as champion teams will not have the opportunity to represent the islands in either the regionals—or if they make it that far—even the World Series in the U.S. Mainland.

"Saipan Little League will open its season in May and it will only go all the way to the regular season and district tournament. When you say district tournament it consists of the CNMI Little League made up of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota," he said following last

Saturday's Saipan Little League meeting held at the Department of Public Works' Grounds and Transportation office in Lower Base.

He said the pandemic has made a mess of the Little League's calendar and there's still no clarity if the Little League in the U.S. would even commence because of the high rates of COVID-19 there.

"If you look at the time now it's April already. Nor-



mally district tournaments start in June and regionals starts in July... Little League

International president Stephen D. Keener has also formed a committee that will come out with a recommendation with regards to opening the Little League season because we're talking about the new norm now. COVID-19 will not just go away

See LITTLE on Page 23



MARK RABAGO

Saipan Little League president Mike Borja leads last Saturday's Saipan Little League meeting at the Department of Public Works' Grounds and Transportation office in Lower Base.

SCS, WSR make debuts in All Schools

By **MARK RABAGO**
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Saipan Community School and William S. Reyes Elementary School made their debuts yesterday in the Public School System All Schools Track and Field Championship at the Oleai Track and Field.

In the 60m boys 9U, Saipan Community School's Lennox Sablan topped the field with a time of 12:01, followed by William S. Reyes Elementary School's Calen Cabrera (12:38) and SCS' Kastle Haberman (12:66).

In the boys 12U, Ioane Camacho (10:84) was the lone runner as other participants were seeing action in the 2020-2021 NMIFA Interscholastic Soccer League.

In the boys 200m 9U, SCS' Joshua McDonald finished first with a time of 42:45 followed by two other Tsunamis—Ryan Jun (45:59) and Haberman (45:82).

Only two runners saw action in the boys 12U age group with Camacho finishing first with a



MARK RABAGO

Saipan Community School and William S. Reyes Elementary School runners see action in the 60m sprint of the Public School System All Schools Track and Field Championship yesterday at the Oleai Track and Field.

time of 39:03 with fellow Kingfisher Jonathan Vargas coming in second in 46:49.

Marq Hernandez and Vargas of WSR both ran alone in the boys 9U and 12U 800m, submitting times of 4:18 and 4:58, respectively.

In the long jump, Haberman leapt the farthest in the boys 9U at 2.6m, followed by Hernandez's 2.5m and SCS' Ryan Macaranas' 1.95.



In the 60m girls 9U, SCS' Maria Haberman was the fastest with a time of 11:89 with WSR's Menzie Elieisar (12:62) and SCS' Lily Lim (13:56) coming in second and third. In the 12U age group, Kingfisher Shacey Sablan was the lone runner and completed the sprint in 12:26.

The 200m girls 9U saw

See SCS on Page 23